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THE PLACE NAMES OF STIRLINGSHIRE

The Place Names of Stirlingshire

BY

REV. JAMES B. JOHNSTON, B.D.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, FALKIRK

(*Author of "The Place Names of Scotland"*)

SECOND EDITION

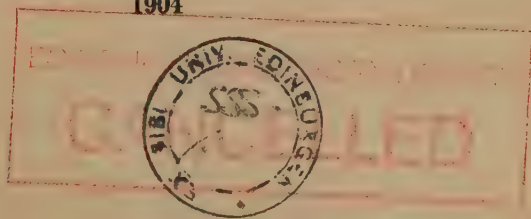
WITH A NEW PREFACE

THOROUGHLY REVISED AND MUCH ENLARGED

STIRLING

R. S. SHEARER & SON, 6 KING STREET

1904



The Sentinel Press
Stirling

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

THE writer desires to acknowledge the valued help of several kind friends in preparing the following paper and List of Names; in particular, Dr. J. A. H. Murray of Oxford, Mr. W. B. Cook and Mr. David B. Morris of Stirling, Mr. J. R. M'Luckie, F.S.A., of Falkirk, and Rev. C. J. T. Merrylees, M.A., of Glasgow, a native of Balfroun. Any corrections, additional place names of interest, or fresh reliable information of any kind will always be most welcome.

J. B. J.

ST. ANDREW'S MANSE,
FALKIRK, *February, 1903.*

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

THE first edition of this little book was very limited, and was all sold out within six weeks. The writer is grateful for the very kindly and appreciative way in which it was received both by the press as a whole, and by private readers. But the first edition had many imperfections, and the writer is glad to have the opportunity of presenting his work in this much enlarged and improved form. The Introduction has been carefully revised, but the chief alterations and additions will be found in the appended List of Names. In its revision the writer has drawn largely from the Valuation Roll, and has enjoyed the skilled assistance of Mr. John Cameron, F.E.I.S., of Ullapool, a Gaelic scholar of repute, who has helped him to adjust not a few grammatical niceties, which vexed the righteous soul of the scholarly Gael; but for all opinions expressed in this book the writer alone is responsible. It should also be understood that sometimes, of set purpose, he has not spelt Gaelic names as they would be spelt to-day, because it seemed evident that, in some cases, things have changed in the 500 or 600 years which have passed since Gaelic ceased to be spoken in the most of Stirlingshire.

Many Gaels, like "Fionn" in Glasgow, and Mr. T. D. Macdonald of Stirling (with whom one is sorry so often to disagree), have treated the writer with all courtesy, even when expressing their disapproval. But there is one group of critics who stand in a different category; they have contributed much of high value to Place-Name study in Scotland, for which the present writer, like all true students, is sincerely grateful; but both their methods and their statements seem to demand some plain rejoinder here. The critics referred to are the men of the Inverness school, whose otherwise high-class work is, in every case, marred by Pictish theorizings, sentimental obstinacy, and, what is

much worse, by literary manners which are not considered admirable anywhere out of Inverness, and probably not even there. Examples of these last had best be left in obscurity; but a few examples of their other defects it may be useful to dwell upon.

The name Allan has been much discussed, and seems still doubtful. It is confidently claimed as Pictish, and, in support of this, it is asserted that the same root occurs in Alness, Ross-shire, which a leading Inverness scholar insists is in Gaelic Alanais, with a short initial *a* and a clear Pictish ending. The writer doubted this, made most careful inquiry, and found that this asserted Alanais was wrong in every syllable. No Gael in Easter Ross makes the first *a* short; no Gael pronounces the second syllable as *a* at all; and nobody says -ais. The native pronunciation to-day is either *Awlnesh*, with the second syllable absolutely forgotten, or else *Ahlnes*, showing that the earliest spelling of the much-abused scribes, 1226 *Alenes*, was absolutely correct, and that this Pictish ending is pure theory. It may be correct, but the ending has not been -ais these 700 years. The manifest shiftiness of the first vowel in this root Allan or Alun justifies the writer in making the suggestions as to its origin, which he does in the List. These facts also show how slender are the grounds on which many assertions about Pictish names are still being made.

But the head and front of the writer's offending has been that he resolutely refuses to subscribe to the Inverness theory, that (a) Inverness Gaelic of to-day must be *the* criterion of the Gaelic which entered into the Gaelic names of Stirlingshire 700 or 1700 years ago; and (b) that the way in which a Celtic name is pronounced by a Gael to-day, even though he is not a native, is the only evidence to which weight can be attached; while the old scribes are to be looked upon as men stupid and careless beyond all description. The Gael is held to be rigidly accurate and unvarying in his pronunciations all through the centuries, he is an authority to be accepted even for Norse names; but the phonetic spellings of the English scribes are only fit to be laughed to scorn. In all these tenacious assertions there is great exaggeration. Gaelic, like all other languages, changes, and this the Inverness school often ignore. One

derivation of which their leader is specially proud is that of Boleskin, near Foyers, which he derives from *both fhleasgain*, "house, bothy, of withies," though in the phonetic spelling of the charter of 1226 it is Buleske(n). It is true that in the slovenly and mutilated pronunciation of modern Gaelic — of course, modern English can be slovenly and mutilated, too—*both fhleasgain* sounds very like Boleskin. But the evidence is wide and ample (see p. 4, note), which makes it as nearly as possible certain, that the Old Gaelic *buth* or *both* was not sounded *bu* or *bo* in any part of Scotland as early as 1226; it is doubtful if the *f* would then have disappeared either. So the present writer still adheres decidedly to one or other of the origins suggested in his *Place Names of Scotland*. One proof that *both* was not sounded *bo* in the 13th century comes from the present pronunciation of our Stirlingshire parish, Bothkennar, where the *th* is always sounded, even as it was spelt in the earliest known record, 1291 Bothkenner, a date when Gaelic must have been dying or dead at that spot.

The truth is that Gaelic name-pronunciations, though, as a rule, stable enough, can be shifty and unstable to the last degree. Alness, just cited, is a good case in point; Lomond (see the List) is a case still more striking. Or take that much-debated name Callander. The name may after all be Pictish; but this at least is certain, the Perth and Stirling Callanders are two different names, which only became assimilated because, for a time, they belonged to the same English-speaking proprietors, the Livingstones, Earls of Linlithgow. The Stirling name is originally Calentare, a name reproduced in the Kalentaremore and Kalentarebeg in Perth, mentioned in 1504 as belonging to Graham, Earl of Montrose. The first part of the name is still uncertain; if Gaelic, it may either represent an old plural of *coille* or *cail*, "a wood," as in Dunkeld, which in the *Book of Deer* (1132) is Duincaillen; or it may be the same root as *cailleán*, "seeds or husks." In any case the Inverness school is wrong in asserting that the name is of the same type as the Inverness-shire Aberchalder, in modern Gaelic Obairchaladair, where, it is said, *n* has been lost in accordance with phonetic law. This is pure imagination; the Stirling name has never lost its *n*, and the Inverness name

was in 1238 Abbircaledouer, showing that it never had one, and that the last part of the name was without doubt the Old Gaelic *dobhar* or *dur*, "water"; showing, too, how valueless the modern Gaelic pronunciation can be when the Gael no longer knows the meaning of what he pronounces. And what a hash he has made of this Callander, which is the gateway to the Trossachs! Here are the facts, collected in print, it is believed, for the first time. The first known mention is in the *Register of the Great Seal*, 1451, "Calyn et Calendrate in comitatu de Mentheth"; 1457 Calyn et Calindrade; 1509 Calen et Calendrath, also Calentreth. In 1791 the Gaelic parish minister (*Old Statistical Account*) said the Gaelic in his day was Callastraid, which he interpreted as the street or road leading up from the ferry, oblivious of the fact that a ferry is *càla*, and not *calla*. Armstrong's *Gaelic Dictionary*, 1825, gives the name as Caldrait; to-day, in Argyleshire, it is said, the pronunciation is Cal(l)-sraid, while in Callander itself it is Calltraid. What has Inverness to make of all this?

One other example of shiftiness may suffice. An old native of Loch Gilp, Argyleshire, told the writer, very positively, that it was in Gaelic, *loch-a-gilb*, another younger native was equally positive that it was *loch gilab* with no article, while an Easter Ross Gael who knew the place well as a fisherman, called it very distinctly *loch gelb*. There can be no doubt the loch is really named from its resemblance to the blunt head of a chisel, from Gaelic *gileab*, *gileib*, a chisel. The sentimental obstinacy of the Inverness school is well seen further in the importance they persist in attaching to nondescript modern Gaelic pronunciations like Sruithlà for Stirling (see the List), and Paslig for Paisley. The latter has been loudly trumpeted as a great scientific discovery inasmuch as, it is said, this Paslig proves that Paisley is really the Latin *basilica*, "an early Christian Church," found in Old Irish as *baisleac*; and one or two learned Germans, who are always falling in love with brilliant and baseless conjectures, have countersigned the suggestion. But what are the facts? Paisley is in a Brythonic region, and the men who say Paslig to-day had no proper connection with the founders of Paisley; nor is there any proof that *baisleac* was a word ever used in Scotland. Even

if it was there is no analogy for affirming that the ending -leac could or would turn into -ley. Nor is there any trace of a *basilica* where we find the sister name, How Pasley in Roxburgh. The whole theory is based on the violent supposition that the oldest known form of the name was Passelech, which an ignorant scribe perverted into Passeleth, *sic* 1157. It is admitted that in the hundreds of old charters where Paisley is named the form Passelech never occurs, and in the Chartulary of Paisley Abbey, whose monks surely ought to have known best how the name was sounded, even the form Passeleth seems only to occur once, c. 1220; while all through we have Passelet, and, already in the foundation charter, a. 1163, side by side with it we have Passelay. The index also gives the form Pasla, which looks like the enunciation of an old Gael. Both phonetics and site are suited by postulating a Brythonic *pais-a-leath*, "brow or front of the slope"; cf. Gaelic *bathais*, brow, and *leathad*, W. *llethr*, a slope. By all means let modern Gaelic have its fullest due; but in view of facts, such as the samples just cited, we ought to have less dogmatic insistence in future. It must be frankly admitted that Gaelic names can and do change; and Stirlingshire is no exception, as a study of names like Lomond, Stirling, Killearn, Camoquhill, and others will amply prove.

The writer desires to acknowledge numerous valuable notes received from Dr. Dugald Mitchell of Camelon, author of *The History of the Highlands*; also kind help from the Revs. W. M. Steven, B.D., Glasgow, R. Munro, B.D., Old Kilpatrick, David Smith, St. Ninians, and H. A. Kennedy, D.Sc., Callander; W. K. Gair, Esq., A. Gray Buchanan, Esq., W. J. Watson, Esq., M.A., and J. A. Johnston, Esq. Special mention must also be made of George Sherriff, Esq., of Carronvale, without whose generous sympathy this new edition might never have seen the light. The publisher, Mr. Shearer, has been most assiduous and painstaking in doing all that lay within his power; and the printer, Mr. W. B. Cook, has done far more than a printer's usual share to increase both the beauty and the accuracy of the book.

J. B. J.

July, 1904.

The Place Names of Stirlingshire¹

INTRODUCTION

THIS is a field largely unworked. There are general treatises for all Scotland; there is a carefully-prepared paper by Rev. W. M. Steven, B.D., on "The Names of the Parish of Kilsyth" (1897); and there have been a number of interesting and scholarly articles in the Stirling newspapers, a sadly fugitive method of publication. Otherwise, we seem as yet to have almost nothing. But the field, though so largely unworked, is fairly manageable. There are probably not many more than 600 names in Stirlingshire which have any special distinction or interest about them. And yet the field is bigger than one might think. Most of us, I at least speak for myself, will have had but hazy notions of the exact limits of our shire. I wonder, for instance, how many of our average East Stirlingshire people remember that our shire includes Stronachlachar on Loch Katrine, and several islands on Loch Lomond. Our first necessity, therefore, is a proper map; and that is rather hard to get. There does not seem to be any good modern map of Stirlingshire; the Ordnance Survey sheets are cumbersome and expensive; the map with most detail in one sheet is that issued by Thomson of Edin-

¹ Originally given as a paper before the Stirling Natural History, and Archæological Society, 21st October, 1902.

burgh, the wall-map in 1817, smaller size in 1820; the best available ordinary map is Johnston's 3 miles to an inch map of Scotland, sheet 6; but that omits many minor names, nor does it include the extreme West. I adhere strictly in this paper to the boundaries laid down in Johnston's map. That means that the region around Alva is now in Perthshire, whilst the limits of our own shire now extend a good way north of Bridge of Allan.

Even when we have got the best available map, and studied it with care, we are immediately confronted with two somewhat serious disadvantages:—(1) *The Difficulty of procuring Old Forms or Spellings of the Names*. Everyone who takes an interest in this subject knows full well that, in many cases, it is impossible to feel certain about the meaning of a name, unless we can adduce its old form. Here even our oldest maps, like those of Timothy Pont, are often of no help, for 1610, which is approximately Pont's date,¹ is too late, in many cases, to be of any service. Long before then the chief names had not only been born, but often greatly corrupted too. We have, therefore, to fall back upon the Abbey Charters, our great source of information for old Scottish names, and now all printed for us (though, as a rule, miserably edited) through the munificence of the Bannatyne, Maitland, Grampian, and other Clubs. One naturally turns first to the Charters of Cambuskenneth, which, by the way, are better edited than those of almost any other Abbey, thanks to the labours of the late Dr. Fraser. But the result, for us, is decidedly disappointing. I have only been able to identify about 30 names in the Cambuskenneth Cartulary as existing in our shire at the present day, all of them in East Stirlingshire round by Stirling, Dunipace, and Falkirk. For the extreme west end we have the Cartulary of Levenax or Lennox; but Lennox is chiefly in Dumbartonshire, and I have been able to detect but a handful of our modern Stirlingshire names in the Cartulary. The great Charter Book of Holyrood Abbey gives us a few names in the Polmont and Carse districts; and one or two may be gleaned from the Charters of Paisley. An odd three or four are to be found in the "Exchequer Rolls," now all printed from about 1260

¹ His maps were printed at Amsterdam in 1654.

onwards; but the Stirling Rolls are particularly meagre in names. On the whole, the result is a little disappointing, and only too often we are left to the poor crutch of conjecture.

(2) *The Difficulty of procuring the True or Original Pronunciation.* As we shall see, a very large proportion of our names are pure Gaelic; and Gaelic names are very liable to be corrupted, being either mispronounced by unskilled lips, or misspelt by unlearned pens, sometimes both. Therefore it is always desirable, and sometimes essential, to learn the proper pronunciation from a native's lips, if certainty is to be won. Not that absolute certainty would always be ensured, even with that. Gaelic speakers can be just as careless and slovenly as speakers English and Scotch, and are quite capable of corrupting or ignorantly perverting their own tongue. This all the more, because the ear, not always an infallible instrument, is, as a rule, their only guide. A Gael who has learnt to spell and write his mother tongue has always been a rarity; but a Gaelic-speaking native, literate or illiterate, is sadly to seek in these days in any part of the shire. A few may still linger by the banks of Loch Lomond or Loch Katrine;¹ though already before the close of the 18th century they were vanishing fast even there. Moreover, these are not, as a rule, the districts where the interpretation of the names presents special difficulty. It is in the Eastern and Southern portions of the shire, where Gaelic has been defunct for generations, that a sure knowledge of the original pronunciation would be most valuable.

There is a generally recognised rule, a rule most useful to check and guide one in any conjectures, viz., that the Gaelic stress or accent always falls upon the attributive or adjectival part of a name; and thus one ought always to be able to tell which is the substantive in a name, and which the appended description or designation, *e.g.*, in Dullatur, the accent is on the first syllable, enabling one readily to surmise that the first syllable must be the Gaelic

¹ By courtesy of the Registrar-General, I am enabled to state that, at the census of 1901, there were 2022 persons in Stirlingshire speaking both Gaelic and English, and 10 who actually spoke Gaelic only. In the parish of Buchanan, perhaps our only true Highland parish, there were but 74 Gaelic speakers, of whom none spoke Gaelic only.

dubh, "black," and the whole name, *dubh leitir*, "dark slope." But in Blochairn the accent is, with equal decision, on the second syllable, so that we feel sure it must mean "of the cairn," whatever Blo- may stand for, and that may not be quite so certain; probably *G. blot-a-chairn*, "cave, den by the cairn." But, though authorities like Prof. M'Kinnon are very strong on the sure place of the accent, we must admit that the rule has exceptions; *e.g.*, not only do all English people speak of Malcolm Cànmore (*ceann mòr*, "big head"), but even natives speak of the bonny little village at the east end of Loch Tay as *Kénmore*, though by rule it should be *Kenmóre*. And everyone says *Kínloch Rannoch*, not *Kinlóch Rannoch*, though perhaps that is not a very good exception. For the sake of those who may follow me in these studies, it may be well to say that, owing to the long influence of English or non-Keltic tongues, the accent does seem to have changed in a good many cases, in the more English districts of Stirlingshire. As specimens take Cannerton, Kennedy, Mugdock, Mumrils, Polmont, all names of which it would be hard to make any sense, if it be not admitted that the accent has changed. The student may work out the question at his leisure with the aid of the list at the end of this paper.

Another point to be borne in mind is that the pronunciation of Gaelic has certainly changed sometimes, since the days when our place names were in the making. Not seldom the old pronunciation and the official or scholastic spelling were much nearer than they are to-day. Aspiration then had not produced such perplexing results, and the Gael was not so slurred or elliptical in his pronunciation as he too often is now. Letters always mute to-day were often sounded in the olden time, *e.g.*, *both*, "a house," sounds *bo* to-day; but in former days it was pronounced in full, *both* or *buth* or *bot*, as it still is in *Bothkennar*.¹ The Gaelic *gabhal* (better *gobhal*), a fork, is now usually sounded like *ga-ull* or *go-ull*; but in the name *Gavell* we see the *bh* still sounded as it originally was. Thus, our Keltic-speaking friends, though often very lordly and dogmatic, cannot always be accepted as final authorities on such points.

¹ See also the writer's *Place Names of Scotland* (1903), s.v., Bonhill, Botriphnie, Bowden, and Pitgaveny. Two early spellings of Bonhill, not given there, are 1225 Buchlul, and 1273 Bohtlul.

To-day cannot always be allowed to rule yesterday ; and it is always with yesterday, often a far-off yesterday, that we have to do.

PHONETIC LAWS.

Place names are liable to almost unlimited corruption ; but the tyro must please remember that anything cannot become anything, as a great many even of educated people seem to think. All corruptions of pronunciation arise and proceed according to well-known phonetic laws. A first-hand knowledge of the site is often very useful in the study of Gaelic place names, which are so habitually descriptive. Only, sites have often changed beyond all recognition since the day when they were first dubbed with a name. Thus, even more than a knowledge of the site, there is nothing so needful for the place-name student as a thorough mastery of the possible and legitimate phonetic changes of each consonant and vowel. Where this is remembered a vast number of wild guesses will remain for ever unuttered ; and never again will an educated man suggest that Rumford may just be "rough ford," or the like. Whatever the tyro's attempts at etymologizing on his own account may be, they can hardly, by any possibility, be so wild, or show such downright ignorance of any language, as most of the attempts at etymology in the old "Statistical Account of the Parishes of Scotland."

THE PROPORTION OF GAELIC AND OF ENGLISH NAMES.

In one way our whole study is comparatively simple. For examination shows that two languages, and two only, Gaelic and English, are amply sufficient for the unravelling of the vast majority of our place names. A big handful of our names are purely commonplace or of yesterday, but of the rest nearly two-thirds are Gaelic or English ; and so but a very small fraction is left to be distributed among names which may possibly have something Norse or Welsh, something Brythonic, or Pictish, or Roman, about their origin. This small handful, however, includes a few of the most interesting names within our bounds.

I have not deliberately shirked any names that I have come across, and I have drawn up a list of over 500. It

makes no pretence of being exhaustive; but I have omitted very few known names, unless they were either commonplace and obvious English names, or else simple Gaelic ones, readily explainable by aid of other similar names which are given. However, I fear there must be a number of interesting and picturesque Gaelic appellatives, names of hills and little burns and the like, which have escaped me, through lack of mention in any printed record; and no doubt there are a good many other omissions which zealous co-operators will gradually supply. What is important, however, is this, that in all these over 500 names there seem to be only a little over a dozen which are completely doubtful in their meaning. As to all the others one can at least suggest a possible or plausible origin, though very often the choice must be left open between two or even more alternatives. In many cases new definite information can alone enable us to decide. Meantime it may be worth while mentioning some of the nuts which have, hitherto, proved too hard for our teeth to crack, names that are still quite uncertain—Awells, Birbiston, Bonny Water, Frenich, Hookney, Indians, Shippy Trouty, Sterriqua, Thicket, Thislet, Waltryburn, Weedings Hall, Wyndford. All that can be suggested about such names is given in the appended List. Further light will be most welcome. Readers of the first edition will probably observe that a good many of the “puzzles” there have now met with a fairly satisfactory solution—names like Balgrochan, Faughlin Burn, and Mye.

Gaelic names are found all over the shire, and preponderate in the whole of the great section which lies west of Bannockburn and Dennyloanhead; and they are to be found almost unmixed in that stretch of country, 15 miles or so in length, which lies betwixt Buchanan Church on the south and Inversnaid and Stronachlachar on the north. English names prevail from Stirling town southwards beyond Slamanan, and around Grangemouth there are hardly any others. When one glances around my own particular district, the Falkirk region, the fact strikes one that the great estates nearly all have Keltic names—Airth, Bantaskin, Callendar, Dunipace, Dunmore, Kinnaird; whereas the separate farms, with rare exceptions (like Auchentyre and Carmuir), have names purely Saxon or Broad Scots—Middlefield, Parkhead, Standalane, Woodburn, and the like. Very likely there is

no farm name in Stirlingshire older than the 13th century; Cornton (Bridge of Allan) is the only farm name we know for certain to be as ancient, though it is well known that farms were abundant in East Stirlingshire before the 14th century was very old. See the Scots "Exchequer Rolls" for 1338. It is scarcely needful to add that of course a name may be a great deal older than the farm which now bears it.

RETREAT OF GAELIC BEFORE ENGLISH.

We hardly know the exact date of the birth of any Keltic place name; but examination of the available evidence tends to the conclusion, that all, or very nearly all, our Stirlingshire Gaelic names must have existed before the year 1200: whilst our English names only just begin to come in about that date. Well known is the fact that, except in the Lothian section of old Northumbria (the tract from Berwick to Edinburgh) no English or Anglo-Saxon was spoken in Scotland at all until the days of King Malcolm Canmore, who, in 1069, married Margaret, sister of the exiled Saxon Prince, Edgar Atheling, and who died in 1093. Through the Norman Conquest and the influx of Saxon nobles, English must now have spread, slowly yet steadily, west and north of Edinburgh. But the old Gaelic speech retreated before it very slowly; probably it was still common all over our shire in the century before Bannockburn; and in the extreme west, around Ben Lomond, it is not quite dead even yet.

GAELIC NAMES.

It is highly probable that all, or nearly all, our Gaelic names existed before the year 1200, but of course we are very far from being able to prove it. As matter of fact only about 20 names in all are found on record so early; and even of those 20 several come to us through Irish or Welsh annals of somewhat doubtful date. We may always expect the names of streams to be ancient, indeed aboriginal; it is but seldom that they ever change. Thus we are not surprised to find river names like Allan, Avon, and Carron recorded at a very early date. I have, however, come upon no early mention of the Bonny Water; we may

be almost certain that the name is ancient and pre-English; but what it means is far from clear. A few burns bear names which must be late, like Earl's Burn and Grange Burn; but this is quite exceptional. One marked exception of a changed river name there may be, and that the chief river of the county, the Forth. This name seems first to have been given to the frith, and then to the river flowing into the frith. It first finds mention in the pages of the "Life of Agricola," by Tacitus, 80 A.D., as *Bodotria*,¹ of which Ptolemy's *Boderia*, forty years later, is evidently a variant. By and by this name seems to have fallen into disuse, and the frith received quite a variety of temporary names like Eastern Gulf, Frisian Sea, Scots Water, &c. (see List). But already by the middle of the 10th century, the days of the "Pictish Chronicle," our present name comes in; for there we read of fortifications made "on the banks of the fords of the Forthin." Soon thereafter we find the name in a somewhat more easily interpreted guise as *Foircu* or *Froch*, which, there can be little doubt, represent the Gaelic words *foir* and *fraigh*, both meaning "a rim" or "edge," hence, "the border or boundary of a country." The reference plainly is, to the fact, that in those days the Firth of Forth was the boundary line between Saxon Lothian and Keltic Fife. It seems highly probable that the softer and less Keltic-looking form *Forth* must be due to the influences of the Old Norse *fiorth-r*, now *fjord*, our *firth* or *frith*.

Hills usually bear ancient names, as well as rivers; but the only early hill name on record among us is that of the Ochil range. Apart from the rivers the most interesting of the earliest names are Airth, Callendar near Falkirk, Cambuskenneth, Larbert, Slamannan, Stirling, and even Stirlingshire, found already in a papal bull of 1164; also Falkirk, though only in its original Gaelic form "Eaglesbrec."

ENGLISH NAMES.

When we come to speak of our English names we feel on much surer ground; we have solid, historic fact beneath our feet; and we can actually go back with many of these

¹ Perhaps old Gaelic *bod* (mod. G. *both*) *oitir*, "house on the promontory or jutting rock."

English names to their very cradle, or within a few years thereafter. Gaelic was loth to disappear from Stirlingshire, and our first English name does not greet us till we come on for a full century after Malcolm Canmore, and reach the very threshold of the 13th century. One curious little bit of evidence about the previous century we are able to cite. In a charter of c. 1140 we find the name of Keltor, near Larbert, which shows that, at that date, there had as yet been no attempt to half Anglicise the name into its well-known modern form, Torwood. Our very earliest English name comes from the same quarter, for c. 1200 we find "Stan hous," now called Stenhouse, which would appear to indicate that stone houses were a significant rarity in our shire in that semi-barbarous age. The Alloa Sauchie is found in 1208 as Salechoc, which is early English for "willow haugh"; our Stirling Sauchie does not appear to be so ancient; and, strange to say, I have not been able to trace a single other English name within our bounds until the 13th century is almost at a close, except that the village now called St. Ninians is mentioned by its old name of "the Kirketoun" in 1207. Cornton, already referred to, appears in 1288, but the well-known Eaglais Bhreac does not seem to don its English garb and become Faw Kirk until about 1298; and the only other English name which seems to have any claim to be as early is the Bridge of Drip, on our shire's northern edge, which just before 1300 is cited as "Passagium de drippes." Even the half-English or hybrid name Bannockburn does not emerge until we come to the pages of the English chronicles of the very year of the battle, 1314.

The great bulk of our English names are the titles of farms or hamlets, of which we find little or no trace, until we arrive at the days of the "Register of the Great Seal," a record which begins to be available for us about the year 1306; but the fine modern edition of the more important part thereof only begins at 1424. It is curious how difficult it is to acquire any information about a good many of our villages whose origin cannot be very remote; yet locally all tradition seems lost or else is very doubtful. If even the parish ministers who wrote the old "Statistical Account" (1791-97) had been a little more minute, how welcome their information might have been to-day; though true, on very rare occasions, they do enable us to give the very year of

birth: *e.g.*, Grangemouth, at the mouth of the Grange Burn, which came into being when the Forth and Clyde Canal was opened in 1777. An interesting name is Livilands (St. Ninians), certainly meaning, as its position shows, "level lands." *Level* is a word which comes to us from the Old French word *livel*, of the same meaning. Dr. Murray, in his "Dictionary," only cites one instance of the word being spelt with an *i* in English, and that in 1362, while the word does not occur in English at all until 1340; so that we can be almost certain that Livilands must have got its name about the middle of the 14th century.

PICTISH NAMES.

It has been a surprise to find how scanty is any trace in our nomenclature of Pictish, Brythonic or Norse settlement within our borders. One might have expected matters otherwise. The much-debated, much-bewritten Picts were divided into two kingdoms, a southern in Galloway, and a northern, which lay chiefly in the North, but whose southern boundary is said to have been the Forth. Yet, immediately south of that river, we can find, among all our names, but few sure traces of their influence. After all the research which has been made, we, as yet, know very little about the Picts, who they were, or what precisely was the speech they spake. Their almost obliterated dialect had certainly some Brythonic, especially Cornish affinities, but—so it is argued—if it differed widely from Gaelic surely it would have left more of distinct trace behind, especially in the place names of Pictland. Though it must be admitted that Columba, a speaker of Erse, which is almost identical with Scots Gaelic, required an interpreter when he went to evangelize among the Picts; and high authorities hold that the difference between the two was wide and deep. The evidence seems to tend this way; but the names in Stirlingshire on which we can place our finger and say, this of a surety is Pictish, are very few. The sure sign-manual of the vanished race is to be found in such prefixes as *auchter*, *fetter*, *pit* or *pett*. There does not seem to be one good surviving instance of any of these prefixes in our shire; though in 1215 we do find an Vtred Banoc (1412 Vthir bannock), which seems to be an English scribe's lame at-

tempt at Auchterbanoc, "the high field above Bannockburn," just as some Sassenach in 1293 mangled Auchtermuchty into Utermokerdy.

Old records also furnish us with two examples of *pit* or *pett*, for in 1288 we find Petendreich, now clipped down into Pendreich (Bridge of Allan), whilst in 1451 we have a "Pettintoskale in the barony of Calentare" (Falkirk). This last is a difficult name to interpret, though its first portion is plain enough, *pit* or *pett* being the common Pictish word for "an enclosed or tilled piece of ground, a croft." It is suggested that "Pettintoskal" must be the modern Bantaskin, which is confirmed by the name occurring in 1497 as Pettintoskane, and by the proved example of Petendreich, now Pendrich: in 1617, Bantaskin is called Pantaskon, and in 1745 Pentaskin. The present form in Ban- is probably a modern corruption; if it be a really ancient though unrecorded form, then ban-, on the analogy of Bandedeath (S. Alloa) for "Badyndeth," will probably be a contraction of G. *badan*, "a little thicket or clump of trees." A few other of our shire names have been claimed with some probability as survivals of the Pictish days, e.g., Carron, Ibert, Larbert, Lomond, Ochils, Plean, possibly Airthrie, Dunipace, and Loch Katrine too. But positive evidence is everywhere sadly lacking. Certainly there seem no Stirlingshire names with the ending -es, so common in the North, like Alves and Geddes, representing a Pictish -ais.

Pictish is undoubtedly one of the *p* group, and not one of the *k* or *q* group, of Keltic languages. Thus, e.g., the G. *ceann*, a head or headland, has *penn* for its equivalent in Welsh, and perhaps in Pictish too; though it seems probable that *pan* may be the true Pictish form. This granted we have a solution of a puzzle which has long puzzled many scholars, the true explanation of *pan* in such well-known Forfarshire names as Panbride and Panmore;¹ certainly Forfarshire is a Pictish region. It was long taught that the equivalent of the Welsh or Brythonic *penn* was our common Gaelic *ben*; but this is not so. We have a crucial proof in the Scotch name, found in Gododin and other Welsh bards, as Pentir, which, on Scottish lips, becomes, not Bentir, but the familiar Kintyre or Cantire,

¹ c. 1200, "Pannebrid," and 1286, "Pannemore."

"head" or "end of the land," the Scots "Land's End." Thus, whatever be the origin of Bantaskin, it is bad philology to imagine it simply the proper Gaelic form of Pentaskin. True names in *pen* are excessively rare north of the Forth; Pendreich, which is only just north of that line, is, as we already know, not a true *pen* at all; and there are only two others, Pennan, near Fraserburgh, and Penick, near Nairn, whose early history seems unknown. All the other names in *pen* must—if they ever existed—have been changed very early into *ken* or *kin*.

One of the commonest of our place-name prefixes is *inver*, "at the mouth" or "confluence of a river"; there are Scottish "invers" by the score; it is therefore not a little remarkable that there are only three *invers* in Stirlingshire—Inverallan, Invergyle and Inversnaid. We are bound to add that there is not a single *aber* either; and *aber* is a prefix almost equally as common as *inver*, and with the same meaning. But there are "abers" very near our borders, *e.g.*, Aberfoyle, only two miles too far north, and the little island of Aber, off the mouth of the R. Endrick, which is nearer still.

BRYTHONIC NAMES.

The Picts never came far enough south to affect our place names much, the Brythons never came far enough north. As everybody knows, a Brython or Welsh kingdom, commonly called Strathclyde, once stretched from Solway to Clyde, with its capital at the Rock of Dumbarton. It dragged on a feeble existence till about the middle of the 10th century: but the speech of these Wealas, these "strangers," as we would now call them, must have approximated to our Gaelic, and moved far away from Welsh, long before 950. At any rate we need the Welsh dictionary hardly at all for Stirlingshire. The name of the Ochil Hills may be Brythonic in origin—Welsh *uchel*, "high"; as likely it is Gaelic or Pictish; and though the root is now lost in Scottish Gaelic, it is still traceable in the Old Irish *achil*, seen in Achill Island. I am told, however, that Achiltibuie, near Ullapool, does not contain this root, but is really *achadh a' ghille bhuidhe*, "field of the yellow-haired lad."

Ochils being possibly excepted, the only surely Brythonic name we have is, curious to relate, Stirling itself. Many a perverse explanation of this name has found its way into print; but there can be little doubt that it is the Brythonic or Welsh *ystre Felyn*, "house" or "dwelling of Velyn," as is shown by its earliest spelling, *a.* 1124, Strivelin, and still more clearly by its spelling in 1250, Estrivelin. I still think, as I wrote some thirteen years ago, that we find the same man's name repeated in Dunfermline, a name recorded for us a little earlier, *c.* 1100, in Turgot's Life of the saintly Queen Margaret, where it is spelt Dumfermelyn, or "the slanting hill of Melyn." (See List s.v. Stirling.) I wish we knew who this Melyn was. What one may make bold to conjecture is, that he must have been some venturesome Brython, who pushed his way north from the banks of the Clyde, built a house, or very likely a castle, for himself at Stirling, probably before 900 A.D., and then pushed on to Dunfermline, where he must have wrought some signal exploit.¹ It is hardly a conjecture that this name Melyn is the original of the common Scots surname Melvin, which, after the 17th century, usually became refined or "improved" into Melville.

NORSE NAMES.

Norse or Danish impress upon our shire is also remarkably slight, though many a plunder-seeking Viking must have sailed his galley up the Forth, as he did up and into every other bay and creek of Scotland, and of eastern England too. The name Carse or Kerse is probably Scandinavian in its origin; but the root must have been early adopted into Gaelic, where we find it in such a very Gaelic-sounding name as that of the loch dear to all Caledonian curlers, Carsebreck; and already in 1195 it seems to be manipulated into a Gaelic diminutive, as Carsyn, now Kersie, near South Alloa. Another early loan-word which the Gael took from the hardy Norseman is *moor* or *muir*, found in Bonnymuir, Carmuir, etc. There is little else to refer to under this head, save Satterhill and Shield-

¹ It is at least possible that the same name occurs in Helvellyn in Cumberland.

hill (q.v.), and that curious name, which one would not easily guess to be Norse, Easter *Jaw* and *Jawcraig*, near Slamanan. But Easter *Jaw* appears in James II.'s charter to Lord Livingstone in 1458 as *Estir jal*; and, as late as 1745, we find on an old map *Jallcraig*, clearly proving the root to be the Icelandic *gall*, "barren," a word which reappears for us in the name of the far-off Isle of Yell. A good many words in our vernacular come to us from the Norse, and occasionally find their way into place names, like *mire*, in the sense of "swamp" or "fen," as in Boon the Myre and Currymire, farms near Kilsyth. But such names can hardly be quoted as instances of Norse influence in Stirlingshire; nor even such a suffix as *fell* in Campsie Fells (from old N. *fiall*).

ROMAN NAMES.

If the mark of Brython and Norseman among us was but small, the mark made by the Roman on our nomenclature was smaller still. Save for the sprinkling of "chesters" near its south-east border, Scotland can now furnish practically no names at all due to the Romans, and there are no "chesters" or "casters" in Stirlingshire. We do have a "Torrance of Campsie," where "Torrance," like Water of Torrance in Aberdeenshire, is often said to be the Latin *torrens*, "a rushing stream"; but the history of these names seems to be unknown. It is much more likely that the name is simply a corruption of the Gaelic *torran*, "a little mound, a knoll," with the English plural *s*. One of our names, however, is often claimed as derived straight from Latin, Castlecary, which is said to be *castella cara*, "the dear fort." It is much more likely to be a tautology, a combination of English and Keltic, both halves meaning "castle" or "fort."

HYBRIDS AND TAUTOLOGIES.

This naturally leads one on to say a word or two about hybrid names and tautologies. Some good philologists are very loth to admit any true hybrid names, if by any possibility they can be denied. There can be no doubt that hybrids should always be postulated very cautiously and

sparingly, for what seem to be hybrids are often mere ignorant corruptions, like *Cambuslang*, which is really the Gaelic *camus-nan-long*, "the river bend of the barges,"¹ while Banton in our own county is really *ban dùn* or "Whitehill." But we have several quite indisputable hybrids too, not only loosely attached ones like Bannockburn (of course this name has nothing to do with scones!), but also regular hybrids like Balquhatston, Barlinfauld, Carronshore, Currymire, Jawcraig, and Mungaldend. The student will soon come across many tautologies too, and he should ever be on the outlook for them, even in unsuspected quarters. In many a region one race has succeeded or overcome another, and the nomenclature has been altered or revised or supplemented, oftentimes quite needlessly, and out of pure ignorance. Bannockburn is a case in point, for the name really is *ban oc*, "white, glistening stream," and to add *burn* was a pure superfluity, though the incoming Sassenach knew it not. Snabhead, near by, is another instance, for *snab*, lit. "a beak," and *head* mean very much the same thing; so do *pirley* and *hill* in Pirleyhill (Polmont); and so do *Ochil* and *hills* in Ochil Hills. The incomer also always tends to change a name whose sound or meaning is unfamiliar into something he knows well. Hence the old Muckraw (G. *muc-rath*) near Lennoxton, which means "a cleared spot for pigs," has now become Muckcroft, which no doubt the unlearned Sassenach thought was better sense. For similar reason the old Tomfour became Thomfour and Tamfour, in which last shape it now stands.

ASPIRATION, ITS EFFECTS IN GAELIC.

Two other phenomena will often puzzle the tyro in place names, and sometimes fairly bewilder the expert too—the effects of "aspiration" in Gaelic, and the constant tendency of the liquid consonants, in any language, to soften or disappear. In Gaelic, in certain positions, the consonants, *b*, *c*, *d*, *f*, *g*, *m*, *r*, *t*, always aspirate, which in spelling is represented by adding an *h*; this tends to give printed Gaelic much of its uncouth and baffling look. In pronunciation

¹ Mr. J. M. Mackinlay connects rather the W. *llan* or G. *lann*, a church.

the aspiration of a *b* or an *m* makes it sound just like a *v*, in the case of *mh* a very nasal *v*; but frequently the aspiration "eclipses" or silences the letter altogether, and it leaves no trace behind, either in the pronunciation or in that phonetic spelling, which is far the commonest in old charters. It is these vanished letters which often make it so hard for us to track out the root of a very Gaelic-looking name, even with the aid of the best of dictionaries. The possibilities are so varied that the hunt is often long, and not seldom vain and fruitless in the end. Only practice and much painfully acquired experience will avail us poor English folk here. Without such no man could ever hope successfully to conjecture the root of names like Dalhilloch or Dumgoyn or Elbroch or Mugdock.

THE LIQUID CONSONANTS.

The liquids too are very troublesome, they are so very liquid. These letters *l*, *m*, *n*, *r*, one never knows when or how they will slip away. In about half the names where it occurs the *n* of the article *an* or *na*, "of the," has disappeared. And, in particular, *l* very often softens down into *w*, as in Pow for *poll*, and Jaw for *gall*; but not Fawkirk for Falkirk. That is the other way round; here the *l* is a late importation due to some would-be scholar, who would fain have associated the old "Speckled Church" with the *vallum* or Roman wall, which ran so near. A fine instance of the disappearance of liquids is to be seen in Maddiston (Polmont), a name whose origin one never could have guessed. It looks like a hybrid from the Gaelic *madadh*, a wild dog or wolf; but its true meaning is solved by King James I.'s charter of 1424, where it is spelt "Mandirstoun." *Mander*, *Manders*, or *Maunder* is a personal name still not unknown among us.

ECCLESIASTICAL NAMES.

The Church has always had a considerable say in the naming of places in Scotland; though, of course, in an indirect rather than a direct fashion. Names embodying the Scots or Northern English word *kirk* are to be found with frequency all over our land; and its Keltic equivalent Kil-

(or *cill*) is more frequent still; whilst other names with a churchly flavour about them are far from uncommon. This being so, one is rather surprised to find how comparatively few are the ecclesiastical names within our own shire, and even more surprised to find how few are indisputably so. Manuel, *e.g.*, is generally held to be a contraction for Immanuel; there certainly was once a priory here, but whether it was called after Our Lord is by no means certain. (See List.) Most remarkable is the fact that there seems to be not one solitary Kil- within the shire, indubitably meaning "church." This is a lack comparable only to the absence of "abers" and "invers." One possible exception may be found in Killearn, but Killearn is one of the names which have changed. Originally, and until the 15th century, it was Kinearn, *i.e.*, "head of the district." Kinkell, in Garioch, is often said to mean "head church," or church with chapels under it (Gaelic *ceann-ceall*), for it had seven in pre-Reformation days. But the accentuation Kinkéll shows that our Stirling name, like perhaps all the other Kinkells in Scotland, must be *cinn-a-coille*, "at the head of the wood." Drumakill, in Drymen parish, is said by Mr. J. M. Mackinlay to be "the ridge of the church"; but there seems no proof that there ever was a church there. As for "kirks," there seem only Falkirk and Kirk o' Muir near Fintry. Near by the latter is a hill named Craigannet, which can hardly be derived from O.E. *ganot*, the gannet or solan goose. It looks as if it might be "Rock of the parent church," or Annait, a name not uncommon in Scottish nomenclature. But why Kirk o' Muir should be called "a parent church" it is hard to say. For, originally, it was simply a chapel dedicated to the Blessed Virgin by Patrick Graham of Dundaff in 1445 (*capella Beate Marie in Mora de Dundaff*). In Pont the spelling is quite different—Craigcanneck. (See the List.)

No one will now be surprised to learn that few saints are commemorated within our borders. There is, of course, the Irish Canice or Kenneth at Cambuskenneth, and Adamnan of Iona has his name sadly clipped down both in Kilunan and Rowardennan. Finnich Malise is a compound name, in which the *ma* tempts one to think of the common Keltic endearing prefix, meaning "my" or "my dear," often prefixed to the names of saints, as in Kilmaronock, Kilmar-

nock, and many more. But in this case there is no saint in question at all, only a certain Malisius, a faithful vassal of the Earl of Lennox, who is briefly referred to in the *Cartulary*. But, of course, we have St. Ninians or St. Ringans, whilst the curter Rinans also appears near Balfron. Ninian, our earliest Scottish saint, is also one of the most frequently commemorated. In its earliest days, however, our Stirling St. Ninians was usually called simply Egglis, *i.e.*, "The Church," or else Kirktown. Up till the 18th century the church at Slamannan was also called St. Lawrence, and there his well doth still survive. St. Drostan, the dear friend of Columba, is preserved to memory in Craigrostan, on Loch Lomond; while a little further south is Balmaha, the "village of St. Mahew." There is a St. Colum's or Columba's Glen near Kippen; a St. Mirren's Well at Kilsyth commemorates Merinus or Meadhran, of the Irish Bangor and our Scottish Paisley; and there is, or rather was, St. Modan's Well at Falkirk, to celebrate an 8th century missionary, probably a comrade of St. Ronan, while Ladysmill in the same town was presumably so called in honour of the Blessed Virgin. But there seems little else for the hagiologist to discourse upon. The religious houses and their officials, however, have left their mark in several directions, *e.g.*, in Abbotsgrange, Abbotshaugh, Arnprior, Buchanan, "house of the canon," Grange Burn, Molenclerach, "parson's mill," and so forth. There are also "Templelands," a relic of the Knights Templar, near Denny.

BATTLE NAMES.

Another interesting little group of names clusters around our battlefields. Stirlingshire, the centre and heart of Scotland, has been made the scene of many a bloody combat, and these often and very naturally have left deep-printed memories behind. Immortal Bannockburn is recalled by Gillieshill, but only possibly by Halbert's Bog. Halbert is probably the name of some man, as the *halbert*, the word at any rate, and probably the weapon too, was quite unknown in Scotland till long after the days of Robert the Bruce. I am indebted to Mr. W. B. Cook for another probable reference, *viz.*, in the place now called Batterflats or

Butterflats, between Stirling and Bannockburn. We get the true and original name in the Polmaise deeds of 1610-20, Battelflats. Ignorant notaries mistook *l* for *r*, and made it Batterflats; while fresh ignorance considering itself superior wisdom made Batterflats into Butterflats. The first battle of Falkirk is commemorated by the modern Campfield Street in Grahamston, as well as, possibly, by Bainsford, supposed to be named after a hapless Sir Brian, who was here fairly bogged and slain; Wallacestone, too, refers to the same field. The second battle of Falkirk, Prince Charlie's battle, is preserved for us in the original Campfield at the West end of the town, and in the modern Battlefield Cottage on its site, while Prince Charlie's Well lies not far away. There are two places called The Garrison in our shire. One carries us back to Falkirk in the days of Wallace wight; the other, at Inversnaid, reminds us of the turbulence of the Jacobite clans in the days of the Georges. The exploits of the brilliant Marquis of Montrose are still kept in mind by Baggage Knowe at Kilsyth; and probably other instances could be found.

NAMES IN -FORD.

Yet another very curious and somewhat puzzling group of names links itself to the suffix -ford, as in Bainsford, Randyford, Rumford, Summerford, and Wyndford. In none of these cases is there anything like what we would now call a "ford," or passage through a large stream fit for horses and vehicles. Bainsford is supposed to refer to some passage through the Mungal Bog; and the old Pest Burn once flowed right through it; but the early history of the name seems quite unknown. In most or all of the other cases there is, though no "ford," some burn or little stream. Thus, it seems safest to translate "ford" in all Stirlingshire names by some such word as "brook" or "burn"; though, of course, it is probable that some of the little streams in question may once have been of larger size and stronger current. That the English word *ford* did once mean also "a brook" is quite certain. Dr. Murray's *Dictionary* quotes from one writer of date 1563, who says, "Ryvers are caused by the meatynge of many brooks and fordes"; whilst another, writing in 1610, affirms that "Boggie grounds

are fastened and firmed by frequent overflowing them with Fords or Land floods."

CONCLUSION.

The student at the very outset of his studies discovers that the Kelt always had an eye for scenery. Most of his place names simply and succinctly describe the site of the place as it struck his eye; hence the high value of a personal inspection in all studies of this sort; though it has always to be remembered that sites may alter or be "corrupted" in their own fashion as well as names. Occasionally, though rarely, the Kelt's names indicate a considerable appreciation of the picturesque, too. The Saxon or Lowland Scot very seldom troubled about the picturesque. His names, like himself, are mostly matter-of-fact—Middlefield, Parkhead, or the like. But—and with the throwing out of this remark I close—the Saxon sometimes developed what the Kelt never seems to do, a sense of humour, as in such farm names as Jinkabout and Lying Tom and Sourgrass (Denny). The pensive Kelt has given us a Balfron, a "house of mourning," but never a "house of mirth."

CONTRACTIONS USED IN THE LIST

a.—ante, before.

c.—circa, about.

Cf.—compare.

Dan.—Danish.

Dimin.—diminutive.

Fr.—French.

fr.—from.

G.—Gaelic.

Icel.—Icelandic.

Ir.—Irish.

L.—Latin.

Nom.—nominative.

O.E.—Old English or Anglo-Saxon.

O.G.—Old Gaelic.

O.N.—Old Norse.

Perh.—Perhaps.

Plur.—Plural.

Prob.—Probably.

Pron.—Pronounced or Pronunciation.

Sc.—Broad Scots.

W.—Welsh.

LIST OF THE CHIEF PLACE NAMES IN STIRLINGSHIRE

Abbeystown Bridge (Airth). This keeps in memory lands granted here to Holyrood Abbey by King David I.

Abbotsgrange (Grangemouth). "Farm of the abbot," of Newbattle. "Grange," medieval L. *granagium* (fr. *granum*, grain), is the place where the rents and tithes of a monastery used to be delivered and kept.

Abbotshaugh (Falkirk). See above. "Haugh" is O.E. *healh*, *halech*, a flat meadow by a river.

Acremaskin (Buchlyvie). G. *acair measgain*, "acre, field of the butterwort."

Airth. 1128 Hereth, c. 1214 Harth, 1296 Erth. Prob. G. *àiridh*, "a level green, a place where osiers grow."

Airthrie (Stirling). c. 1200 Athran,-eran, 1317 Athray,-eray. Some think Pictish. Perh. G. *ath-rainn* or *-roinn*, "a subdivision."

Allan or Allen R. 1373 Alon, and 1187 Strathalun, which may be G. *srath àluinn*, "bright, bonnie valley." The first *a* is now short, but the Ir. *àluinn* or *àlainn* has certainly become short on English lips in several Irish names, like Moyallen and Kenallen, Down. For a similar reason, both the Stirling and the Ross-shire Allan (1357 Alane, 1529 Alen) may be a variant of G. *ailean*, pron. *ál-en*, "a green plain," which suits the site in both cases. The length of the first vowel of Allan seems very fluctuating. Alness, Ross-shire, is asserted to be Alanes, the same root, and there the first *a* is now always pretty long. Moreover, the Ir. dimin. *ailean*, "little rock," has five times become Alleen in Ir. place names. Cf., too, the W. and Corn. Alun.

Allander (Milngavie). Prob. O.G. *ailean duir*, "plain by the stream," now the Allander.

Allanrowie (Fintry). G. *ailean ruadh*, "red, reddish plain."

Antermomy (Milton of Campsie). 1380 Altyrmomy, 1440 Altermone, 1451 Auchtyrmone, c. 1610 *Pont*, Atermynny, 18th century Altermunin, Altyrmomy. Prob. G. *allt tìre mòine*, "stream in the boggy land," G. *mòine*, a bog, a peat-moss.

Ardinning or **Ardinan Loch** (Strathblane). G. *àrd dinnain* or *dùnain*, "top of the little hill."

Arklet Loch (Stronachlachar). So pron. in G. to-day. Possibly c. 1080 *Tighernac*, ann. 711, Loirgeclat, i.e., Loch Irgeclat. Prob. G. *àr cleit*, "battle-field of the snow-flakes."

Arnbrae (Kilsyth). Sic c. 1610. G. *àrd an braigh*, "top of the brae or upland."

Arngibbon (Kippen). G. *àrd an ghibein*, "height with the hunch on it."

Arngomery (Kippen). "Height of Gomery," cf. above. Thus, same name as Montgomery, Wales, 1087 *Domesday*, Muntgumeri, c. 1140 Mons Gomerici. An Anglo-Norman Montgomery settled at Eaglesham, Renfrew, c. 1157.

Arnloss (Slamannan). "Height of the flame or beacon," G. *loise*, or "of the garden, the enclosure," G. *lios*. Cf. Arnbrae.

Arnotdale and **Arnothill** (Falkirk). Said to be fr. *earth-nut*, in 1551 *ernut*, "the pig-nut," formerly dug up here. Cf. 1429 "Arnut," in Fifeshire.

Arnprior (Kippen). "Height of the prior," of Inchmahome. Cf. Arngomery.

Arns (Drymen). Sc. for "alders." Another near Castle-cary; and cf. Arnhall, Huntly. Dr. Murray thinks *arn* may be = *alrn*, *allern* "alder," O.E. *ælren*.

Arrochybeg and **Arrochymore** (Buchanan). 1405 Errachymor. G. *arach beag* and *arach mòr*, "little" and "big meadow or battlefield."

Arthur's Oon (Carron). Sic 1727, now gone; 1293 Furnum Arthuri. "Arthur's oven," O.E. *ofen*, Icel. *ofn*; thought to have been a cairn or mound in memory of one of King Arthur's battles. It may have been the "stan hus" which gave the name to Stenhouse.

- Ashlan** (N. of Buchanan). In *New Statistical Account* Clacklane. Perh. G. *eas lainn*, "waterfall by the enclosure."
- Auchenbowie** (Plean). 1329 Auchinbothy, 1483 Auchinbowy. Not, as it might seem, fr. G. *buidhe*, yellow, as in Drumbowie; but G. *achadh nam bothan*, "field with the little houses or huts."
- Aucheneck** (Killearn). G. *achadh an eich*, "field of the horse"; or possibly fr. an old root meaning "water," as in L. Eck, G. *Aic*.
- Auchengane** (Falkirk). 1458 Duae Auchingavennis, c. 1610 Achingein. Now pron. Auchengáyn. G. *achadh nan gamhna* (sing. *gamhainn*), "field of the yearling cattle"; cf. Auchtergaven, Perth.
- Auchentroig** (Buchlyvie). 1393 -introig. "Field of the dwarf," G. *troich*; or, "of the soles of the feet, foot-prints," G. *troigh*. This last also means "sorrow," though rarely.
- Auchentyre** (Kinnaird). G. *achadh na tíre*, "enclosed field on the land." Cf. Kintyre.
- Auchincloch** (Kilsyth). c. 1350 Auchincloich. "Field with the pebbles or rocks," G. *cloch* or *clach*.
- Auchineden** (Strathblane). Local pron. Auchine'en. "Field on the face or slope of the hill," G. *eadann*.
- Auchinmulley** (Banton). "Field on the summit or height," G. *mullach*.
- Auchinreoch** (Kilsyth). 1451 Achinrewach, 1610 Achinrivoch. G. *achanna* (plur. of *achadh*) *riabhach*, "greyish, brownish fields."
- Auchinvalley** (Kilsyth). G. *achadh an bhaile* (pron. vally), "field with the farm or hamlet," or else "township field."
- Avon R. and Avonbridge**. Prob. O.E. *Chron.* ann. 710 Hæfe. G. *abhuinn*, "a river."
- Awells** (Grangemouth). Doubtful.
- Babbithill** (Slamannan). Doubtful. Perh. fr. the personal name *Babbit*; perh. G. *babhaid* or *babag*, "a fringe, a tassel, a cluster."

- Badankep** (Buchlyvie). G. *badan cip*, "little thicket, clump of trees, with the tree stumps in it."
- Baddavow** (Gartmore). 1691 Badivow. Doubtful. The Badd- is G. *bad*, "a thicket"; the *a* is the G. article; the -vow may be the aspirated gen. of *mol*, "a heap or conical mound," or of *moll*, *muill*, "chaff, dust." For this phonetic change cf. Pow fr. G. *poll*, *puill*, and Cowden, formerly Coulden.
- Badluskin** (Kippen). "Thicket of the *cradle*," G. *luasgain*; perh. fr. O.G. *lusga*, a cave, a rather doubtful word.
- Bad Oigheannaich** (Buchanan). G., "thicket with the thistles."
- Baggage Knowe** (Kilsyth). Hill where Montrose's baggage was stored at the battle of Kilsyth, 1645.
- Bainsford** (Falkirk). *Sic* 1785; 1797 "Briansford, commonly called Bainsford." Thought to mark the place where Sir Brian de Jay, preceptor of the Scottish Templars, stuck fast while trying to cross Mungal Bog, and was slain, in the battle of Falkirk, 1298. See the contemporary chroniclers, Matthew of Westminster and Walter of Hemingburgh. "The Pest Burn" once flowed through Bainsford, and very likely it was called after a man *Bain*, as was Bainshole, Inch. See also pp. 18-19.
- Balafark** (Balfron). Prob. G. *bail'-a'-fuirc*, "hamlet at the fork." But Blairforkie, Bridge of Allan, is prob. fr. *farcán*, an oak-tree.
- Baldernock** (Milngavie). c. 1200 Buthirnok, 1238 Buthernockis, 1745 Badernock. Originally O.G. *buth*, "house," but now G. *baile*, "farm, hamlet," *airneig* or *earnaig*, "of the sloe-trees."
- Balfron**. *a.* 1300 Bafrone (and ? 1503 Buthrane, cf. above). Prob. G. *bail'-a-bhroin*, "village of mourning."
- Balfunning** (Drymen). *a.* 1300 Buchmonyn. For the first syllable, see Baldernock. The latter part is either G. *monachán*, "hills," or *monaidhean*, "heathy moors." For the -ing, cf. Ardinning.
- Balgrochan** (Lennoxtown and Torrance). c. 1225 Bren-grochane, 1272 Brengrouchan, 1428 Bargrochan, 1458 Ballingrochane, 1486 Balgrochquenis. The Bren- is fr. G. *barr-an-*, "height of the"; but the name now comes fr. G. *baile*, "hamlet, place," and, prob., *grothach*, commoner *gnothach* or *gnothuch*, plur. *gnothuichean*, "affairs"; hence, "business-place."

- Balhennan** (Fintry). Perh. G. *bail'-a'-bhinnein*, "hamlet by the little ben or hill."
- Ballagan** (Strathblane). G. *bail'-lagain*, "hamlet, farm in the little hollow."
- Ballat** (Balfron). c. 1350 Buchlat, see Baldernock; 1494 Ballatis, *Pont* Balatts, 1691 Temple Ballath. G. *bail'ait*, "cheerful, joyful hamlet."
- Ballikinrain** (Killearn). *Sic* 1680, but c. 1610 *Pont* Balachendrain, Balekendrain. Either G. *baile cinn rainn*, "village, farm at the head (G. *ceann*) of the division," *rainn* or *roinn*; or perh. *bealach an rainn*, "pass at the division" or "at the promontory."
- Ballindalloch** (Balfron). ? 1238 Balinodalach, c. 1350 Ballindalach. G. *baile na dalach* (gen. of *dail*), "village in the field." There is another in Strathspey.
- Ballochneck** (Drymen). G. *bealach nan each*, "pass of, or available for, horses." But cf. Aucheneck.
- Balmaha** (L. Lomond). c. 1610 Balmacha; now pron. Balmahaw. G. *bail Macha*, "village of St. Maha," or Mahew, companion of St. Patrick, who is said to have lived at Kingarth, Bute. On a hillside not far away there is still St. Maha's Well.
- Balquharrage** (Lennoxtown). c. 1350 Balecarrage. Prob. G. *bail'-a-c(h)arraig*, "village, house on the cliff."
- Balquhatston** (Slamannan). c. 1610 Banhatstain. "Village of the cats," G. *cat*, *chat*, or possibly, "of the battle," G. *cath*, O.G. *cat*, with the later Eng. suffix *-ton*, here a tautology.
- Balquhiddelock** (Bannockburn). Prob. G. *baile fodarach*, "farm having much fodder or straw," G. *fodar* is prob. fr. O.E. *fódor*.
- Bandeath** (Throsk). 1195 Badyndeth, 1207 Badendath. G. *badan deathaich*, "thicket, little clump of trees among the mist," rising from the Forth; *deathach*, smoke, vapour.
- Bankeir** (Castlecary). *Sic* 1504, but 1510 Ballinkeyre, and still on *Valuation Roll* Ballinkier. Prob. G. *baile na cathair* (the regular gen. is *cathrach*), "village by the fort," i.e., Castlecary. This and the next are instructive instances of contraction.

Banknock (Dennyloanhead). Pron. now Ban-oc. 1510 Ballinknok, *i.e.*, G. *bail 'an cnoc* (regular gen. *chnuic*), "village on the hill."

Bannock. 1215 Vtred Banoc (*i.e.*, G. *uachdar* or Auchterbannock) and Bannockburn, *sic* 1314; 1494 Bannockysborne. Celtic *ban oc*, "white or shining stream"; *oc* is an old root, prob. a hardened form of Ouse. See s.v. Ouse and Oxnam in *Place Names of Scotland*. Bannockburn is thus a tautology like Ockbrook, Derby. From Bellenden, 1536, onwards, many, with little likelihood, have derived fr. G. *bannag*, a bannock. Still, there are Loch nam Bonnag and Ach da bannag in the North.

Bantaskin (Falkirk). *Sic* 1774; but 1450 Pettintostale, 1451 -toskale, 1497 Pettentoskane, 1617 Pantaskin, 1745 Pentaskin. A difficult name. Originally Pict. *pet an tostail* or *tosgail*, "croft of arrogance"; though how came it by such a name? After Gaelic died out it gradually became corrupted into its present shape. For the contraction of *pet an* into pen cf. Pendreich.

Banton (Dullatur). c. 1610 Bantoin. Prob. modification through Eng. ignorance of G. *bàn dùn*, "clear hill." Cf. Bandon, Ireland.

Bardowie (Milngavie). 1504 Berdowy. G. *barr dubh*, "dark, black height," with the Eng. diminutive. Possibly fr. G. *doimhne*, a deep, a hollow.

Barleyside (Slamannan). Possibly a corruption.

Barlinfaulds (Kilsyth). Hybrid. G. *barr linn*, "wet height," and Sc. *fauld*, O.E. *fald*, *feald*, "a fold, an enclosure." Cf. Tithfaulds, Denny.

Barnego (Dunipace). [*? a.* 1177 Brenego]. 1503 Byrnago, 1510 Barnago, *Pont* Barney. Pron. Barnáygo. As the second syllable is accented it cannot be the article; so prob. G. *barr an aigich*, "height of the stallion," G. *aigeach*. Cf. Balerno, 1282 Balernauch.

The Beam (Slamannan). O.E. *béam*, "a tree"; cf. the hornbeam. Or possibly, G. *beum*, a gap, or a stream.

Beancross (Falkirk). c. 1610 Beanscorse, and so prob. "Carse (q.v.) where beans grow."

Beltmoss (Kilsyth). From *belt*, in the sense of "a narrow strip of ground," particularly in Sc., "a strip of plantation."

Bhreac Leac (Buchanan). G., "spotted rock or stone."

Birbieston (Lennoxton). *Sic* 1691. Information lacking.

- Blackbraes** (Falkirk) and **Blackhill** (Greenhill).
- Blackston** (Bathgate). Who was this *Black*? Cf. "Blakstoun," 1504, in Forfarshire.
- Blairessan** (Killearn). G. *blàr easain*, "plain with the little waterfall."
- Blairfad** (Drymen). G. *blàr fad*, "long plain."
- Blairlogie** (Bridge of Allan). 1451 Blarlogy. G. *blàr logaidh*, "plain with the hollow," *logaidh* is the old locative of *lag*, *luig*, a hollow, a pit.
- Blairquhosh** (Strathblane). 1398 Blarechos, -quhoish. G. *blàr-'a-c(h)oise*, "plain at the foot" of the hills, G. *cos*, a foot. Cf. The Hosh, Crieff.
- Blairs** (Plean). 1207 Blare. G. *blàr*, "a plain," with Eng. plural *s*.
- Blairskaith** (Campsie). "Plain with the flowers," G. *sgaith*. Cf. Skaithmuir.
- Blairtummock** (Campsie). Prob. "plain of the ducking, the immersion," G. *tumadh*; but possibly fr. G. *tuamach*, "abounding in graves or mounds."
- Blairvockie** (L. Lomond). "Plain abounding in roebucks," G. *b(h)ocach*, fr. *boc*, *buic*, a buck.
- Blarnavaid** (Drymen). c. 1350 *Cartul. Levenax*, Blairnefode, Blarefode, i.e., G. *blàr an fhòid*, "plain with the peat or turf," or "of the glebe." But the name is now nearer *blàr an bhaid*, "plain with the thicket," G. *bad*. Cf. Blairfad.
- Blinkbonny** (Falkirk). Prob. same as Belle Vue, i.e., "fine view."
- Blochairn** (Baldernock). 1504 Blacharne. Perh. fr. O.G. *blot*, a cave or den; possibly corruption of G. *bail a' chairn*, "village by the cairn or mound."
- Bonn-a-tubha** (L. Arklet). G., "foot, end of the heath or fern."
- Bonny Water and Bonnybridge**. c. 1610 Bony. Like nearly all our names of streams, prob. a Celtic root. Possibly connected with G. *bonnag*, "a jump, a spring."
- Boon the Myre** (Kilsyth). 1823 Binnymire. "Aboon or above the bog," Icel. *myrr*, *myri*, Norse *myre*, "a swamp, a fen."
- Boquhan** (Killearn, Kippen and Gargunnoch). Old forms, Balquhane, Buchquhan. O.G. *buth* or *both bhan*, "white house." Cf. Baldernock.

Bor(e)land (Gartmore and Denny). "Board, mensal land," *i.e.*, land held on the rental of a food supply or board. O.E. and Dan. *bord*, a board, a table, and N. *bord*, a plank, a table, then maintenance at table. Common all over Scotland.

Bothkennar (Falkirk). 1291 Bothkenner, 1304 Boghkener, 1363 Buthkenner. O.G. *buth* or *both ceannaire*, "house of the driver or goadsman." Cf. Buchanan.

Bowhouse (Polmont). 1552 Bowhouss. Sc. *bow*, early Eng. and O.N. *bu*, "farm, farmstock, cattle."

Branshogle, Branshuggle (Killearn). 1680 Blarinshogle. Corruption of G. *blàr an sheagail* or *t'seagail*,¹ "plain with the rye."

Branzert (Killearn). 1545 Branzet; old map, Branert. Either O.G. *bran àrd*, "black height," or possibly fr. *breanach*, stinking, *brean*, a stink. The *z* is the Old Scots *y*.

Brightons (Polmont). Called after a man: we find "Brighton's Quarry" in *New Statistical Account*, 1839.

Brockieside (Kilsyth). 1694 Brookisyd. "Hillside of the badger," Sc. *brock*, O.E. *broc*, Celtic *broc*. For the dimin. -ie, cf. the Scottish surname Brockie.

Broomage (Larbert). O.E. *brom*, "broom, gorse," with the common suffix -age, which comes to us through the French; cf. fruitage, leafage, &c. Only, in 1458 it was Bruminche, fr. *inch*, meaning "a meadow or links," as in Perth Inches.

Buchanan (L. Lomond). c. 1240 Buchquhanane, 1296 Boughcanian, 1562 Bowhanan. O.G. *buth* or *both c(h)anain*, "house of the canon." Cf. Bothkennar.

Buchlyvie; also near Aberdour, Fife, where the old form is Boclavies. Perh. G. *both lamhaich*, "house for shooting or slinging," *i.e.*, fortified house, or "house of swords," *i.e.*, armoury. Possibly the last part is fr. G. *sliabh*, a moor; phonetically this would suit.

Buckieside (Dunipace). 1510 Bukkeside. "Hillside where buckies or sea shells were found."

Butterflats (S. of Stirling). 1610 Battelflets, -flats, 1817 Batterflats. A very curious change. The original reference will prob. be to Bannockburn.

¹ With this *s* becoming *sh*, compare the Eng. pronunciation of sugar or sure.

Caldam Hill (Bannockburn). Prob. like the Cauldames or Cauldhams, of which there are several in Scotland, "cauld hame" or "cold house."

California (Polmont). Recent.

Callendar (Falkirk). 1164-1511 Calentare, 1296 Calentyr, c. 1350 Calianter. A difficult name, by some thought Pictish. Falkirk, Polmont, and Muiravons district was once called Calatria (Ailred of Rievaulx, c. 1145), in Irish Annals Calathros, said to be Ir. *calath ros*, "hard wood," and thought by some the same name as Callander. Early forms do not encourage this. They certainly look as if it was made up of *G. cailleán*, a seed, a husk, *cailleánach*, full of seeds or husks of grain, and *tír*, land. The Perthshire Callander, a different name, was assimilated to the Falkirk Callendar through its ownership by the Livingstones, Earls of Linlithgow. See also the Preface.

Cambusbarron (Stirling). 1215 Cambusbarroun, c. 1270 -barrun. Possibly *G. camus-barr-abhuinn* (here pron. ōwn), "crook, bend at the height over the river"; but prob. *camus barrain*, "river-bend at the little hill."

Cambuskenneth (Stirling). Sic 1147, but *a.* 1150 -kinel. The form in -kinel occurs more than once, but seems to be an error. Prob. "river-bend of Kenneth," Canice or Caimnachus, friend of Columba, and patron of Kilkenny. Possibly *G. camus ceannaiche*, "bay of commerce."

Camelon (Falkirk). [977 *Historia Britonum*, re ann. 537, *Gueith Camlann*, i.e., the battle of Camlann, in qua Arthur et Medraut corruere. This Camlann, W. *cam llan*, "crooked enclosure," must have been in South Britain. Originally Carmuir, q.v., 1526 Boece erroneously Camelodunum, hence 1535 Stewart Camelidone, 1536 Bellenden Camelon, 1777 Nimmo New Camelon. Local pron. *Cáim-lon*, as if *G. cam lòn*, "crooked meadow or marsh."

Cameron (Drymen). *a.* 1200 Cambroun, 1464 Camroun. Generally explained *G. cam shron* (with *sh* mute), "crooked nose" or "headland." But Whitley Stokes, following the earliest form, says O.G. *cam brun*, "crooked hill, slope, or brae."

Camoquhill (Balfour). c. 1350 Camkell, 1482 Camquhell, 1513 Camquhole. A name varying between *G. cam c(h)oill*, "crooked wood," and *ceann na c(h)oille*, "head of the wood." For change of *n* into *m*, cf. dum for dun in Dumbarton, Dumfries, &c. Cf. Kinkell.

Campsie and Campsie Fells. 1208 Kamsi, a 1300 Camsy, 1522 Campsy (through fancied connection with *camp*). G. *cam sith*, "crooked hill" or "hill range." Fell is O.N. *fiall*, Dan. *fjeld*, "mountain."

Candie (Grangemouth and Blackston). The accent suggests O.G. *can du*, "white land or habitation."

Canglar (Plean). c. 1610 Cannglaur. G. *ceann gleadhair*, "height of the loud noise" or "clash of arms." Cf. Dalgalar, Glenshee.

Cannerton (Campsie). The Eng. *canner* is a very modern word; so perh. a modification of G. *ceann airtean*, "height of or covered with little pebbles or flints."

Canny Rinns (Kilsyth). Prob. G. *ceann an roinn*, "head of the promontory" or "division," with Eng. plur. *s*. If so, then = Penrhyn.

Carbeth (Killearn) and **Carbeth Guthrie** (Strathblane). *Sic* 1482, but 1513 Carnbeth. G. *cathair* (pron. *car*) *an bheithe*, "fort among the birches." Also see Guthrie.

Carbrook (Plean). No *brook* here; so prob. G. *cathair bruic*, "fort or den of the badger," G. *broc*, Sc. *brock*.

Carlestoun (Campsie). "Dwelling, farm-toun for the carls or serfs" (churls). So same name as Carleton, Skipton and Pontefract, O.E. *ceorla-tùn*.

Carmuir (Falkirk). 1458 Duae Carmuris, 1632 Wester and Eister Carrmure. Prob. G. *cathair*, W. *caer*, "a fort" (there was one here in Roman days) and *muir*, O.E., Icel. and Dan. *mor*, "a moor, heath, or marsh," a word which seems to have been adopted into G. However, Dalmuir (Dumbarton) is c. 1200 Dalmore, fr. G. *mòr*, big.

Carnock (Airth). 1449 Crannok, 1468 Kernok. G. *càrnach*, "a rocky place, a quarry." But G. *crannag* is "a pulpit."

Carron R., Carronflats, Carronshore, -side, &c. Said to be O.E. *Chron.* ann. 710, Caere, c. 1200 Karun, 1208 Caroun; the name is also thought by some to be found in the tribe Carnones or Ceronas (c. 120 *Ptolemy*). Possibly G. *car abhuinn*, "bending, winding river," fr. *car*, a bend, a winding; a very fit name. Possibly same root as G. *carranuich*, "to separate or stir up." W. J. Watson asserts it is Pict. for "rough river." The Carron is a tidal river, hence Carronshire, *sic* 1792.

Carse or Kerse of the Forth. 1296 Johan Strivelyn de Cars. "Low alluvial land along a river." Root doubtful. It may be O.N. *carr*, Dan. *kaer*, W. *cors*, marsh, fen-land, such land as would now be all drained. Cf. Icel. *kjarr*, copse-wood, Kersie, and Hungry Kerse, Bridge of Allan. It may perh. be G. *car*, with Eng. plur. s, "the windings."

Cashell (Loch Lomond). G. *caiseal*, "a castle, a bulwark." This change of s into sh is very common in Gaelic.

Castlecary. Sic 1450, and prob. c. 1200 *Cartular. Levenax* Castelcarris. Prob. not L. *castellum carum*, "dear fort," but a tautology, G. *cathair*, W. *caer*, a fort, a castle.

Castle Rankine (Dunipace). 1510 *Castell Rankyn*, *Pont* Cast. Ranky, and now usually Castle Rankie. What Rankine was this?

Catcleuch (Bonnybridge). Perh. 1253 *Cartular. Levenax* Cattisclothe. "Gorge of the wild cat," Sc. *cleugh*, early Eng. *clou*, *clog*, a cleft, ravine, or gorge. Cf. Doecleuch and Wolfeleuch, St. Mary's Loch.

Catter (Drymen). c. 1370 Cather, 1498 Kateris, 1520 Estir, Myddill and Westir Catir, *Pont* Cattirs. G. *cathar*, "soft, boggy ground, a marsh." For the hardening of the *th*, cf. Cathcart, c. 1170 Ketkert, c. 1375 Catkert.

Causewayhead (Stirling). [c. 1220 *La chausee, Stirling Burgh Sasines* Lang Calsay.] Here stood the spittal or hospital, to which a causeway ran from Stirling Bridge.

Chartershall (St. Ninians). *Pont* Chartreushall, so prob. not fr. the family of *Charteris*, but some "Charterhouse," or house for Carthusian monks.

Claggans (Drymen). G. and Ir. *claigionn*, "a skull," in Ireland often applied to "a hard, round hill"; with Eng. plur. s.

Clairinch (L. Lomond). c. 1225 Clarines. G. *clàr-innis*, "island like a table or plate," G. *clàr*, *clair*.

Claret (Grangemouth). G. *clàr-ait*, "table-like place."

Cobblebrae (Carron). Hillslope or brae covered with water-worn pebbles or "cobble," middle Eng. *cobyl*, of obscure origin.

Cockmalane (Polmont Station). Very likely recent and whimsical. In old names Cock- generally represents Cul- or Col-.

Cockspow (Throsk). 1449 Kukispull. As it stands, "cock's pow," Sc. for *poll* or head. Originally prob. "cook's pool or stream," as *cock* never has the *u* sound in Sc. or Eng., whereas *kuke* or *cuk* was a common spelling of *cook* in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. *Pow* in Sc. means "a sluggish stream" rather than "a pool"; so also G. *poll*, W. *pwl*.

Coireachan or **Corrieachan** (N. of Buchanan). Pron. Coiréchan. Prob. G. *coir'* *Eachain*, "Hector's corrie" or "glen."

Coire Arklet (L. Arklet). G. *coire*, a cauldron, a corrie, a glen.

Cóldrach (Drymen). Prob. G. *caol darach*, "narrow oak-wood."

Collalis (Drymen). Doubtful. Perh. G. *coill'* *ailghios*, "wood of pride." The accent is against *coill'*-*an-lise*, "wood with the wall or walled garden."

Colzium (Kilsyth). c. 1610 *Pont Colyam*. Now pron. *Cóalzi-um*. The site suggests G. *coill'*-*a-mhàim*, "wood on the rounded hill," G. *màm*, L. *mamma*, "a breast, a pap." But more prob. *coill'*-*a-leum* (pron. *lyame*), "wood of the leap." The "Laird's Loup" is some way off.

Comer (Buchanan). G. *comar*, "a confluence," watersmeet. Same name as Comrie.

Conochra (Drymen). *Pont Connochra*. G. *con-chrà*, "collection of folds," *crà* or *crò*, a fold, a weir. Cf. Conaglen and Contullich, as well as Conchra, Strachur and Lochalsh.

Cornton (Bridge of Allan). 1288 Corntun. The oldest recorded *tun* or "farm-town" in the shire.

Corriegrennan (Aberfoyle). G. *coire grianain*, "corrie, glen with the sunny hill."

Coulter L. (Dunipace). 1457 Cultir. G. *cùl tirè*, "at the back of the land."

The Coutches (Kilsyth). A *coutch* is a division of land. To "coutch" land is to lay it out in regard to a proper and convenient division among proprietors and possessors. Jamieson, *Scottish Dictionary*. Same as Fr. *coucher*.

Cowie (St. Ninians). 1147 Collyne; also Collin, Collie. Seems to be an old plur. of G. *coille*, "a wood," now *coilltean*. Cf. Cowie, Kincardine and Huntly.

- Coxithill** (St. Ninians). 1650 Coxethill. Said to be for *cockshot*, common in Eng. place names, and given originally to be a broad way or glade in a wood through which game might shoot, so as to be caught in nets.
- Cradlins** (Kilsyth). Prob. connected with *cradle*, which the pool is like.
- Craigamphuill** (Kilsyth). *G. creag a' phuill*, "rock over the pool," *G. poll*.
- Craigannet** (N. of Kilsyth). c. 1610 *Pont Craigcanneck*, which means "rock with the sweet willow or myrtle," *G. cannach*. But the present form suggests *creag annait*, "rock of the parent church," referring to Kirk o' Muir, close by. There are several Annaites in Scotland.
- Craigbarnet** (Campsie). 1506 Cragbernard. *Bernard* might be *G. bearn-àrd*, "height with the fissure or notch," as well as a personal name.
- Craigduffie** (N. of Kilsyth). *G. creag dhubh*, "dark rock," with the Eng. dimin. -ie.
- Craigengelt** (W. of Dunipace). 1462 Cragyngelt. Either *G. creagan gealta*, "whitened, bleached little crag," or *creag-an-geilt*, "rock causing fear or cowardice." The present moorland farm, by its site, hardly suggests either, though on it once stood a sepulchral cairn called "The Ghost's Knowe."
- Craigforth** (Stirling). 1215 Craighorth, 1327 Craigorth. "Hill by the Forth"; the *f* in the early forms being lost by aspiration.
- Craighat** (Drymen). *G. creag-a-chait*, "rock of the wild cat."
- Craigieburn** (Falkirk). A quasi-hybrid fr. *G. creagach*, "rocky, hilly."
- Craigievairn** or -vern (Drymen). *Pont Kragivairn*. *G. creag-a-bhearna*, "rock with the gap or fissure," *G. bearn*. Only c. 1350 it was Cromverne, Cronvern, fr. *G. crom*, crooked. Cf. Craigiebarns, Dunkeld.
- Craigmaddie** (Baldernock). "Rock of the hound or wolf," *G. madadh*.
- Craigniven** (W. of Stirling). *G. creag-na-h'aibhne*, "rock by the river" Forth. Cf. Denovan or Dunniven.

- Craigrostan** (Ben Lomond). *Sic* 1793, but 1272 Cragtros-tane. "Rock of St. Drostan," pupil of Columba; *d* lost by aspiration. Cf. Allt Rostan, near by, *G. allt*, a burn. The spelling Craigroyston comes fr. recent association with Rob Roy Macgregor.
- Crawtree** (Gargunnoch). *Craw* is *Sc.* for "crow"; but possibly this is some corruption.
- Crayinch** (L. Lomond). 1320 Creininch, 1680 Crevinch. Prob. *G. craobh-innis*, "tree-island."
- Creitelvain** (Drymen). Prob. *G. croit ailbhinn*, "croft of the flinty rock." Cf. Croftalpie.
- Creityhall** (Buchanan). Corruption of *G. croit-a-c(h)oille*, "croft by the wood." Cf. Creitendam, Drymen, fr. *G. damh*, an ox or deer.
- Cremannan** (Balfroon). 1272 Cremennane. *G. crioch Mhanainn*, "Mannan's boundary." See Slamannan, and cf. Clackmannan.
- Cringle Law** (Fintry). *Pont Krinzet*. *G. cruinn gead*, "round ridge or shoulder of land"; *gead* also means, "a lazy bed, a ridge of cultivated land." This gives better sense than to derive fr. *G. geata*, a gate. In either case we have a tautology, as Law is O.E. *hlæw*, "a mound, a hill."
- Croftalpie** (Fintry). Either fr. O.G. *alp*, "a lump, a protuberance," or *ailp*, "white," or the name *Alpin*. Croft, in *G.*, is *croit*, but that is just a corruption of the Eng. *croft*, though as early as 1445 (*Reg. Cambuskenneth*, p. lxii.) we find Croftmagra.
- Croftamie** (Drymen). Pron. Crof-támmy. Possibly *G. croit Sheumais* or *Sheamais*, "Jamie's croft," with the *sh* mute. Cf. Croit Sheocaidh, "Jockie's croft," and Croitlachlan, Ben Lomond.
- Croftinstilly** (Fintry). Prob. "croft of the spout or gush of water," *G. steall, still*.
- Crook** (Stirling). Icel. *krók-r*, in Eng. c. 1225 *croke*, "a hook, a crook." Prob. 1488 Ingramseruik, fr. Sir Ingeram de Umfraville, who was wounded at Bannockburn, and was slain here. There is a Crooks in Drymen parish.
- Croy Cunningham and Croylecky** (Killearn). Croy is *G. cruaidh*, "hard" or "a hillside." Lecky is *G. leacach*, "abounding in flagstones or slates."

Crummocksteps (Denny). Prob. fr. G. *cromadh*, "a bend, curve, or turn."

Culcreuch (Fintry). 1489 Culcrewch, 1680 Kilcreuch. G. *cùil creuchach*, "clayey nook or corner," fr. *creuch* or *criadh*, clay.

Culness (N. of Buchanan). G. *cùil an eas*, "nook by the waterfall."

Cultenhove (Bannockburn). 1358 Qwytilhoue,¹ 1369 Cultnehoue, 1391 Cultynhuf, 1513 Coltynhufe. Doubtful. First part either G. *cùiltean*, "nooks, corners," G. *cùil*, or *coilltean*, "woods," G. *coille*; second part prob. *na h'uamha*, "of or beside the cave," as in Glenhove or Glenhuve, S. of Cumbernauld, certainly a glen of caves.

Culvachan (Killearn). c. 1370 Culbachane, *Pont Coulbakkan*. G. *cùil*, "a nook or corner," and *bacan*, "a palisade or stake, a knoll," or else *beacan*, "a mushroom."

Currymire (Kilsyth). Hybrid. G. *coire*, a cauldron, a glen, a corrie, and *mire*, a swamp. See Boon the Myre.

Cuttyfield (Kinnaird). Sc. *cutty*, "short," fr. vb. *cut*. Cf. cutty pipe, cutty sark.

Dalderse (Falkirk). c. 1610 -darse. G. *dail dheàrsach*, "bright, gleaming field."

Dalfoil (Balfroon). "Field with the stream or pool," G. *poll*, *phuill*. Cf. Aberfoyle, 1489 Abirfull.

Dalgrain (Falkirk). G. *dail gràinneach*, "field abounding in grain," or perh. fr. *gràin*, disgust, loathing.

Dalhilloch (Fintry). Perh. "hilly field," G. *m(h)eallach*, "hilly," fr. *meall*, a knob, a boss, a hill.

Dalnair (Drymen). 1494 Dalnare. Prob. "field of disgrace or shame," G. *naire*.

Dalratho (Grangemouth). c. 1150 Daratho. Perh. G. *dail raith*, "field of the fort." It is difficult to account for the -o. Cf. Ratho.

¹ Prob. a scribe's error for Quyllthoue. Cf. Quilte, 1250 spelling of Kelty, Kinross, i.e., G. *coillte* or *coilltean*, "woods."

- Darnrig** (Moss Slamannan). O.E. *derne hrycg*, "hill-ridge lying out of the way." *Derne*, Sc. *dern* or *darn*, means, "serving to conceal, dark, dreary, solitary." Cf. Darnick, *a.* 1150 Dernewick, near Melrose.
- Darroch** (hill N. of Banton, and Falkirk). G. *darach*, "an oakwood, an oak." Cf. Kepdarroch, Gargunnoch.
- Dasher** (Kippen) and **Dasherhead** (Gargunnoch). *Pont Dashur*. Prob. a G. locative, *deis thir*, "south district," nom. *deas tìr*.
- Déchrode** (Fintry). G. *deagh rod*, "good, excellent path or road." Cf. *Beckmont*
- Denny**. 1510 Litill Dany, 1691 Denny. Dimin. of *den* or *dean*, O.E. *denu*, "a narrow, wooded vale." Cf. Denny Bottom, Kent.
- Dennyloanhead**. *Loan* is Sc. for "lane," especially a country lane.
- Dénovan** (Dunipace). *Sic* 1691, 1462 Denovane, 1510 Mekill Dunnovane. Local pron. Dunniven. G. *dùn* or *dinn obhainn*, variant of *abhuinn*, gen. *aibhne*, "hill" or "hill fort by the river" Carron. Cf. Craigniven.
- Devon R.** c. 1210 Glendovan. Perh. O.G. *dubh an*, "dark water." An outlier of the great tribe of the Damnonii, inhabitants and namers of the Eng. Devon, W. Dyvnaint, seems to have dwelt here also. Rhys thinks the Sc. and Eng. names identical.
- Dighty** (Kippen). Perh. G. *deagh* or *deadh thigh*. "good, excellent house." Cf. Dichty Water, Dundee.
- Divoties** (Polmont Station). Presumably fr. Sc. *divot*, 1536 *devait*, "a turf, a sod."
- Doghillock** (Dunipace). Possibly a corruption. ? G. *dubh thulach*, "dark hill."
- Dorrator** (Falkirk). G. *doir'-a'-torra*, "wood on the hillock."
- Douchlage** (Denny and Drymen). Den. D. 1691 Duchlass. Prob. G. *dubh clais*, "black, dark ditch or trench," W. *clag*, a trench. Cf. *Marlagie* in *Stone* . . .
- Drip Bridge** (Stirling). 1295 Tirps, *a.* 1300 Passagium de drippes. Cf. Dripps, Renfrew, 1158 le Drip. Presumably Sc. *dreep*, "a jump or drop down," fr. O.E. *drýpan*, to drop or drip.

Drum (Bonnybridge, &c.). G. *druim*, L. *dorsum*, "the back," hence "a hill-ridge like a beast's back." Very common in Sc. place names.

Drumalzier (Denny). Pron. Drummiler, which corresponds with Drummeiler, 1326 form of Drummelzier, Biggar. Prob. G. *druim maoil àird*, "hill-ridge of the bare height," or else fr. *meilleir-eir*, "a blubber-lipped fellow."

Drumbroider (Muiravon). Perh. "hill-ridge of the dream or reverie," G. *bruadair*.

Drummiekeich (Killearn). G. *druim-a-cìche*, "hill-ridge with the projection like a breast or pap."

Drumnessie (Kilsyth). "Hill-ridge with the little waterfall," G. *an easain*.

Drumquharn (Killearn). c. 1370 Drunnecharne. G. *druim-a-chàirn*, "hill-ridge with the cairn."

Drumtassie (Slamannan). "Damp ridge," G. *tais, taise*, "moist, damp, soft."

Drumtian (Killearn). c. 1350 -theane, Pont -tien. "Ridge with the little mound," G. *tiadhan*, or fr. *t'sithean*, "fairies."

Drumtrochar (Kilsyth). The second half looks like G. *trocair*, "pardon, mercy." It may be fr. G. *droch* or *troch*, "bad, dangerous."

Drumwhassle (Drymen). c. 1370 -chastell, Pont -ahassil, 1691 -quhassle. Cf. 1451 Drumcastell, 1540 -quhascheills, in Athole. "Ridge with the castle or fort," G. *c(h)aiseal*. There used to be a castle here.

Drymen. 1238 Drumyn, Drummane, 1793 Drumen. Pron. Drimmen. G. *droman*, "a hill ridge," fr. *druim*, the back.

Drypow (Polmaise). On *pow*, see Cockspow.

Dualt (Killearn). G. *dubh allt*, "dark stream."

Duchray (Aberfoyle). G. *dubh chraobh* "dark wood" or "tree."

Dùllatur. c. 1610 Dulettyr. G. *dubh leitir*, "dark hillside or slope."

Dumgoyn (Killearn). Prob. G. *dùn geoidhan*, (usual gen. plur. *geoidh*), "hill of the geese," as in L. Goin, Fenwick, and Loughnagoyne, Mayo, fr. Ir. and G. *geadh*, a goose. Possibly "hill of storms," G. *gaothan*.

Dundaff (Fintry). *Sic* 1237, 1480 Dundafmure. *Chron. Iona* ann. 692, Duin Deauae, prob. refers to Dundee. Prob. G. *dùn damh*, "hill of the stags, bucks, or oxen."

Dunipace. 1183 Dunipast. c. 1190 -ypais, 1195 -ipace. Skene says fr. Celtic *bass*, "a mound"; the two mounds here being supposed to mark the site of that battle of King Arthur which Nennius. c. 800, calls Bassas. In G. *pais* means suffering. The local explanation is G. *dùn a' bhais*, "hill of death." Some say the name is Pictish; but W. *pais*, a coat, or *pas*, a cough, hardly seems to suit here.

Dunkyan (Killearn). G. *dùn cian*, "distant, remote hill."

Dunmore (Airth). Called after Dunmore in Athole, which there (but not here) means "big hill," G. *mòr*, big. Its former name was Airth Beg, *i.e.*, "little Airth."

Dunmyat, Dumyat, Demyat (Bridge of Allan). 1791 Dunmait. Rhys says, "hill of the tribe *Miati*" (*sic* in Adamnan), outliers of the Damnonii; cf. Devon; *Miati* being prob. fr. W. *meiddio*, to dare. But the *Old Statistical Account*, s.v. Callander, written 1791, says, G. *dùn ma chit*, "hill of the good prospect," which is dubious Gaelic, though the writer was a Gael.

Duntreath (Kilsyth). 1497 -treth. G. *dùn treith*, "hill or hill-fort of the chief," G. *triath*.

Earl's Burn (S. of Gargunnoch) and **Earl's Seat** (Campsie). Prob. called after the Earls of Stirling or Earls of Lennox.

Ebroch (Kilsyth). c. 1610 Abbroch. Prob. G. *ath bruic*, "fort of the badger," G. *broc*. For the E-, cf. Ethie, Arbroath, c. 1212 Athyn. Also cf. 1508 "Ebrukis" near Dundee, and Ibrox, Glasgow.

Edinbellie (Balfron). 1494 Edinballe. G. *cadann baile*, "hillside with the hamlet."

Elphinstone (Airth). c. 1320 Elfyngston. The *ton* or village of *Elpin* or *Elphin*, Pict. for Alpin, Albin, or Albinus, name of one of the Pictish kings.

Endrick R. 1238 Anneric, Annerech. Prob. G. *an éiridh*, "spatey river," literally "river of the rising," fr. *éirich*, to rise, ascend.

Fáliskour (Drymen). Doubtful. Perh. G. *fàl uisg odhair* (pron. oar), "fold, enclosure by the grey water." Perh. fr. *faileag*, the dog-briar berry, and *sgur*, *sgor*, a rock, a cliff.

Falkirk. *a* 1130 *Simeon of Durham* ann. 1065, Egglesbreth, 1166 *Eiglesbrec* que varia capella dicitur, 1253 *Varie Capelle*, 1298 *Barth de Cotton* Faukirke quae a quibusdam vocatur la Chapelle de Fayerie, 1298 (often in Writs) *La vaire* or *veyre* Chapelle, which is Norm. Fr. for *Varia Capella*, *a* 1300 MS., *Digby*, *Locus* qui Anglice vocatur *ye fowe chapel*, 1381 *Fallkirk*, 1382 *Fawkirc*, c. 1600 the *Fawkirk*, which is still the local pron. *Varia Capella*, *Vaire* Chapelle and *Faw kirk* are all translations of the original G. *eaglais bhreac*, "speckled church," church of mottled stone. Sc. *faw*, *fauch*, means "dun, pale red," O.E. *fah* vari-coloured. Cf. *Faside*, 1469 *Fauside*, *Newton Mearns*.

Falleninch (Stirling). Prob. G. *faillean-innis*, "meadow (or island) abounding in twigs." Cf. *Fallin*, S. of Stirling.

Fankerton (Denny). Prob. G. *fang-goirtean*, "sheep-pen enclosure." *Fang* is used in Sc. as *fank*, a sheep-cot, a sheep-pen.

Faughlin Burn (Kilsyth). Prob. the same word as *Fauchlands*, near the Glen, *Falkirk*, fr. Sc. *fauch*, *faugh*, found since 1513, meaning "fallow."

Fingarry (Campsie). G. *fionn ghàradh*, "white, clear-looking garden or enclosure."

Finnich Glen (Killearn). 1208 *Fennach*, 1496 *Fynneich* Tennand, 1498 *Fenek* in tenand. Prob. G. *fionn*, "clear, white," with the common suffix *-ach* meaning "place," cf. *Carnock*, &c. *Tennand* is prob. a charter-term = tenant.

Finnich Málise (Killearn). 1680 *Finwick Blair* (G. *blàr*, a plain) alias *Finwickmalice*. See above. Called after a faithful vassal of Duncan, Earl of Lennox—"Fideli nostro Malisio Carrach (Carrick) illam terram in Strablahane que vocatur Blarechos (Blairquhosh)." *Cart. Levenax*, p. 74, re ann. 1398.

Fintry. 1238 Fyntrie; cf. c. 1203 Fintrith, *a.* 1300 Fyntre, old forms of Fintray, Kintore. Prob. "fine, white land," for G. *fionn* and *treth* or *tre*, which seem O.G. or Pict. for *tìr*, land. Perh. fr. *traith*, the shore of a river.

Flanders Moss (Buchlyvie). *Sic* 1707. Many Flemings settled early in Scotland. E.g., c. 1350 *Cart. Levenax*, Dominus Willelmus Flandrensis de Barruchane.

Fleuchams (Gargunnoch). Prob. G. *fliuch thom*, "wet knoll," *t* lost by aspiration. Cf. Fleuchtar, Campsie, fr. *torr*, a mound, a hillock.

Forth. c. 80 *Tacitus* Bodotria, c. 120 *Ptolemy* Βοδερία ? same root as present name: c. 720 *Bede* Sinus Orientalis (Eastern Gulf), c. 738 *Nennius* Mare Freisicum (Frisian Sea), c. 970 *Pict. Chron.* Ripae *Vadorum* Forthin, 1072 *O.E. Chron.* Scodwade, *i.e.*, Scots' Ford, so *wade* may be meant for a translation of a name like Forth; c. 1110 *Orderic* Scotte Watra, and Irish *Nennius* Foircu; *a* 1150, Forth; *a* 1200 *Descriptio Albaniae*, Scottice (*i.e.*, in Gaelic) Froch, Brittanice (*i.e.*, Welsh) Werid, Romana (*i.e.*, O.E.) vero Scotte wattre; c. 1225 *Orkney. Saga* Myrkvisfiord ("dark, murky frith"). The root seems, G. *foir* or *fraigh*, "rim, edge, border, boundary of a country," *i.e.*, the boundary between Saxon Lothian and Celtic Fife. The softened form *Forth* may have been influenced by early pronunciations of N. *fjord*, a frith.

Fouldubs (Falkirk). *Dub*, found in Sc. fr. 1500 onwards, means "a stagnant or muddy pool"; origin unknown. Cf. Maydub, Denny.

Frenich (L. Chon.) Doubtful. ? Pictish.

Gaidrew (Drymen). Difficult. Possibly G. *gadradh*, "place of withies" (perh. for binding or breaking in horses), or *geadradh*, "place of rigs," on analogy of *bogradh*, pron. bógroo, "a soft place."

Gairdoch (Carron). G. *gearr dabhoch*, "short, ploughed field." Cf. Dochfour, Inverness.

Garchell (Buchlyvie). *Sic* Pont; but c. 1350 Garruchel, Garchellis, 1691 Garshell. G. *gearra choill(e)*, "short wood," or fr. *garbh*, rough. Cf. Garchull, Banff, *sic* 1362.

Garden (Kippen). ? G. *garbh dhùn*, "rough hill," or ? English.

- Gargunnoch.** c. 1470 -now. Prob. *G. garbh chuinneag*, "rough, uneven pool."
- Garngrew** (Castle Cary). Perh. *G. gàradh na gruagaich*, "garden, croft of the maid, bridesmaid, female spectre, or brownie"; or else fr. *cruidh*, "of the cows, black cattle."
- Garrauld** (Drymen) and **Garrel** (Kilsyth). Kil. G. c. 1610 *Garvald*; also *Garvalt*. *G. garbh, allt* "rough stream" or "cliff." Cf. *Garvalt* burn, Braemar, and *Garrel*, Dumfries.
- The Garrison** (Falkirk and Inversnaid). The former prob. a reminiscence of the first battle of Falkirk, 1298; the latter, site of a fort held by King George's troops, 1721-1796.
- Gartchorrachan** (Buchlyvie). 1576 *Gartkerochane*. *G. gart* (same root as Eng. *garth* or *yard*)-*a-chorrachain*, "enclosure, field by the little marsh."
- Gartcows** (Falkirk). In 18th century *Kirkhoose*, of which the present name may be a corruption. If not, then on analogy of *Cowden*, 1604 *Coulden*, prob. "park at the back" (*G. cùl*) of *Arnothill*.
- Gartentruach** (Drymen). *G. goirtean truagh*, "poor, wretched croft."
- Gartfairn** (Buchanan). Prob. 1458 *Gartferin*. "Park with the alders," *G. fearn*. But see next.
- Peel of Gartfarren** (Gartmore). "Field of the land-officer or thane," *G. fearann*. Peel, a stronghold or castle, is said to be a variant of the Eng. *pile*. Cf. The Peel, Gargunnoch.
- Gartincaber** (Buchanan and Plean.) Buch. G. sic 1508, but 1497 *Gartcaber*. *G. goirtean cabair*, "croft of the deer," or "of the rungs or rafters," and so the same as *Garngaber*, Lenzie. Perh. the first syllable may be *gart*, standing corn, grass.
- Gartinstarry** (Drymen). Sic Pont. "Croft of the stepping stones" or "of the path over the bog," *G. stair*. Cf. *Auchinstarry*, Kilsyth.
- Gartlick** (Buchanan). *G. gart lic*, "enclosure with the stone wall," which once exactly described this hamlet; fr. *leac*, a stone.
- Gartness** (Drymen). 1491 *Gartnes*. *G. gart an eas*, "enclosure with the waterfall."

Gartwhinnie (Plean). *G. gart-'a-coinneamh*, "enclosure for the meeting or assembly." But Macbain thinks Dalwhinnie is *G. dail chuinnidh*, which possibly means "narrow field."

Garvald (Dunipace). See Garrel.

Gavell (Kilsyth). *Sic* Pont, 1694 Gaball. *G. gabhal*, "a fork, the junction of two waters."

Gérchew (Killearn). Difficult. Perh. *G. gearr achadh* (which would here be pronounced áchoo), "short field." So W. J. Watson.

Gillieshill (Bannockburn). Hill where the gillies (*G. gille*, a lad) or camp-followers waited in 1314. See the histories.

Glen Village (Falkirk). 1458 Le Glen. Just above a deep glen, *G. gleann*.

Glenbervie (Larbert). Borrowed from Kincardineshire. Bervie is a difficult name. One may suggest, *G. bear*, *bior*, *W.* and *Corn. ber*, a spit, a pin, or *O.G., bir, bior*, water, a well, or *G. borbh*, a muttering sound. Macbain thinks fr. root *borv* as in Bourbon.

Glenfuir (Falkirk). *G. gleann fuar*, "cold glen."

Glen Gaoithe (N. of Buchanan). 1793 Glenguoi, a phonetic spelling. *G.* = "glen of the wind, windy glen."

Glen Gyle (N. of L. Lomond). Now pron. by Gaels *Glen-goyle*, just as they pron. *L. Goil*. 1757 *Glengyl*. Either as *Old Statistical Account*, 1791, says, fr. *G. gobhal*, pron. go-ul, "a fork," as in *L. Goil*, which suits the site of both; fr. *G. Gaidheal*, "a Gael," as in Argyle; or fr. *gall, goill*, "a stranger," which is most likely. At the S. end of the loch there is a *Gyle Burn* and *Auchengyle, Pont Achagyl*.

Glentirran (Kippen). *Pont-tyrren*. *G. tioram*, "dry," or *tuaran*, "little bleaching green." But the older name of the place is said to have been *Terinterran*, thought to be a corruption of *terra et terrain* ("land and plot of land"), a common phrase in old conveyances.

Glorat (Lennoxton). *Sic* 1691, but 1449, *Glorate*. *G. gloir ait(e)*, "clean, neat place"; or fr. *glòrach* or *gleadhrach*, "noisy."

Gogar (Menstrie). *Sic* 1745. The Edinburgh Gogar is 1240 Goger, 1250 Gogger, 1650 Gawger. An obscure name.

Gonachan (Fintry). *Pont Gonnakan*. *G. gonach*, "sharp, keen, stinging," perh. as applied to the air there, with the common suffix -an.

- Gowlan** or **Gualann Hill** (Buchanan). Either *G. gobhalan*, "little pass or gowl"; cf. the Ir. Gowlan and Gulaun, certainly fr. *gabhalan*; or fr. *gualainn*, "the shoulder, a corner, an angle." But the Gowlan or Gowan Hills near Stirling occur in 1506 as the "Gallow hillis."
- Graham's Dyke** (Falkirk). Name given to the Roman Wall. We find an Eng. "Grines dic," 1045 Charter of Eadweard, *Cod. Diplomat*, iv., 98; and in 1128 *Holyrood Chart.*, "William de Græme."
- Grahamston** (Falkirk). It stands on "Graham's Muir" (*sic* 1774), where the battle of Falkirk was fought, and Sir John de Graham slain, 1298. We find the name in 1295 both as Graham and Gram.
- Grandsable** (Polmont). 1841 Grand Sabul. A house built nearly 100 years ago by a returned settler, prob. fr. the Grand Sable R., Michigan; but some say, fr. Grand Sable in the island of Réunion.
- Grange Burn** (Grangemouth). See Abbotsgrange. Higher up it is West Quarter Burn.
- Grangemouth**. Founded 1777. Owes its origin to the Forth and Clyde canal, begun in 1768; at whose mouth, and also at the mouth of the Grange Burn, it stands.
- Greystale** (Bannockburn). 1562 Graysteal. "Grey-looking place," fr. O.E. *stæl*, *steall*, a place, a "stall" in a stable. Cf. Wallstale and South Steal, Dunipace. But Jamieson's *Dictionary* gives *steel*, "the lower part of a ridge projecting from a hill"; and this suits the sites of Greystale and Wallstale.
- Gribboch** (Kippen). Perh. *G. gribeadh*, "a manger."
- Gunnershaw** (Dunipace). Possibly fr. O.G. *gunars*, "whins"; the Eng. *gunner* is found fr. 1344. Shaw is O.E. *scaga*, Dan. *skov*, a wood.
- Guthrie** (Airth). Cf. Guthrie, Arbroath, 1359 Gutherie. *G. gaothar*, *gaothaire*, "windy."
- Haggs** (Dennyloanhead). Sc. *hag*, "copse-wood," O.E. *haga*, "a hedge."
- Hailstaneburn** (Kilsyth). History unknown. *Hail* is Sc. for "whole."

Haining (Manuel). 1424 Hayning. Sc. "an enclosure." To *hain* is to enclose or protect with a fence, to preserve, O.N. *hegna*, Dan. *hegne*. Cf. a field near Stirling called the Haining.

Halbert's Bog (Bannockburn). Prob. called after some man of that name, and not connected with the *halberd* or *halbert*, O.Fr. *alabarde*, *halebard*, a combination of spear and battle-axe, which finds no mention in Eng. till 1495. Cf. Herbertshire.

Hallglen (Falkirk). c. 1610 Haglen. The glen behind Callander House or Hall.

Haugh of Stenhouse (Larbert). A haugh is a pasture, flat and by a river-side, O.E. *healh*, *halech*, Icel. *hagi*.

Herbertshire Castle (Denny). Sic c. 1450, but 1426 Baronia de Herbertshire. Prob. the *shire* or "share" of a man *Herbert*; it may be he mentioned as making a grant of land in Dunipace, c. 1200, *Cambusken. Chart.* p. 107. The tradition is that it was given by an early King James to the Earl of Wigton as his "halbert's share," for service in war. But as to *halbert*, see Halbert's Bog; and James I. only came to the throne in 1424.

Heuck (Grangemouth). *Pont Heucks*. *Heuck* is the Sc. pron. of *hook*. Cf. Crook.

Hollandbush (Dennyloanhead). 1707 Hollinbush, 1769 Hollybush. Sc. *hollin*, O.E. *hollen*, "pertaining to the holly tree," O.E. *holen*, *holegn*. Cf. "Hollanmedu," c. 1250 in *Cartul. Kelso*, and Hollings, Dunipace.

Hollockburn (Muiravonside). Difficult, as old forms are lacking. The initial *h* must represent some aspirated letter, now fallen away. Perh. fr. G. *collach*, variant of *cullach*, a boar, or *bollag*, a skull, a heifer, or even *coileach*, a cock.

Hookney (Denny). Doubtful.

The Hosh (Drymen). "The foot" of the hill; aspirated form of G. *cos*, the foot. There is another at Crieff. Cf. Rowchoish.

How Kerse (Grangemouth). *How* is Sc. for "hollow, low-lying spot," O.E. *holh*, *holg*, a hollow, fr. *hol*, a hole. The Howgate, Falkirk, means, "the way or road leading down to the hollow." Also see Carse.

Howietoun (Stirling). *Howie* is dimin. of *how*, see above; and *toun* is used in the Sc. sense of "a farm toun."

Hungry Hill (Carron), and **Hungry Kerse** (Br. of Allan). The *Oxford Dictionary*, s.v. *hungry*, 6, gives a good many quotations referring to poor or starved land, the earliest of the year 1577. Also see *Carse*.

Ibert (Balfron and Killearn). Local tradition makes them places of sacrifice, ? Druidic, fr. G. *iobairt*, "a sacrifice, an offering." Some hold the name Pict. fr. *bert*, or *pert*, W. *perth*, "a thicket," as in Larbert and Logiepert.

Inchcailloch (L. Lomond). 1325 Inchcalleoch, 1405 Inche-callach. G. *innis chailleachan*, "isle of the nuns," lit. "old women," G. *cailleach*. Up till the 14th century this was the name of the parish of Buchanan.

Inchcruin (L. Lomond). c. 1350 Yniscruny. "Round island," G. *cruinn*, round.

Inchfad (L. Lomond). G. *innis fada*, "long island."

Inchterff (Kilsyth). c. 1610 Inchtarfe. G. *innis tairbh*; here *innis* means, not "island," but "pasture ground, sheltered valley of the bull."

Inchyra Grange (Polmont). Prob. fr. Inchyra, Perthshire, 1324 Inchesyreth; G. *innis iarach* or *siarach*, "western meadow," fr. *iar*, the west.

Indians (Drymen). Doubtful.

Ingleston (Dunipace). "Farm - town of Inglis," i.e., the Englishman.

Inverallan (Bridge of Allan). 1373 Inralon. G. *inbhir Aluin*, "confluence of the R. Allan" with the Forth.

Inversnaid (L. Lomond). "Confluence of the R. Snaid," q.v., with the Arklet.

Easter Jaw and Jawcraig (Slamannan). 1458 Estir Jal; 1745 Jallcraig, 1761 Jawcraig. Hybrid; "bare, barren craig," (Sc. for "rock"). Fr. Icel. *gall*, barren, the *ll*, as in many other cases, being softened into *w*. Cf. the farm of Jaw, Fintry.

Jinkabout (Polmont). Sc. *jink* means "to dodge or quickly turn about"; not found till Allan Ramsay, 1711; so the name is prob. modern.

Katrine L. Not in *Pont*. 1682 Kittern, 1791 Catherine (the Gaelic parish minister's spelling), 1804 Ketterine. Now pron. in G. Ketturin or Keturn. Often said to be G. *cath iuthirn*, "battle of hell." Scholars do not favour this *outré* explanation; and the name may be Pict. But very likely it is *cath Eireann* (pron. éran), "battle of Eire or Earn," a name found all over Scotland; said by the Irish *Nennius* to be that of an Irish queen, who came from Scotland. Loch Earn is found in 1615 as Lockerrane, and Auldearn is 1238 Aldheren, prob. also (*Register St. Andrews*, re ann. 954) Ulurn. *Cath* in G. is now pron. ca; but the pron. of the name Cathcart shows that the *th* once was not mute, and c. 1170 it occurs as both Katkert and Ketkert; cf. too the Eng. words, *cateran* and *kern*, really the same root, Ir. *ceithern*, O.Ir. *ceitern*.

Kelty Water (Gartmore). G. *coillte*, now only the poetic plur. of *coille*, "a wood."

Kelvin R. (Kilsyth). Sic c. 1200; 1208 Kelvyn. G. *caol abhuinn*, "narrow river."

Kennedy (Falkirk). As the site shows, G. *ceann eadainn*, "head, top of the hillslope."

Kepculloch (Balfron). *Pont* Kepcollach. G. *ceap collaich* or *cullaich*, "trap, snare, or block, stump, of the wild-boar."

Kepdowrie (Buchlyvie). c. 1300 Kepdowri, Capdowri, *Pont* Kepdawryes. Perh. G. *ceap duibh airidh*, "tree-stump by the black sheiling"; but as likely fr. O.G. *dobhar* or *dur*, a river, or the boundary of a country.

Kerse (Grangemouth). See *Carse*.

Kersie (S. Alloa). c. 1150 Karsy, 1195 Carsyn, 1207 Carsin. "Little Carse," q.v. The -yn or -in may represent the G. dimin. -an, or it may only be a scribal ending.

Kildean (Stirling). Prob. G. *cùil dion*, "nook of refuge"; though some say *cill deadhain*, "cell or church of the dean," of Stirling.

Kilfasset (Balfron). c. 1350 Kilfassane, *Pont* -fassats. Perh. G. *coille fasidh*, "wood with the projecting spur," or *cill fhasach*, "graveyard in the solitary place," or "anchorite's cell."

- Killearn.** c. 1250 Kynerine, Kynhern, 1275 Kyllarn, c. 1430 Killern. A name that has changed. At first "head or height," G. *cinn* or *ceann*, but now, "church," G. *cill*, "of the division or district," *earrann*; cf. Morvern, G. *mòr earrann*, "big division." There was a Killearn in Jura and a Killern, Anwoth. All three, with small likelihood, have been derived fr. St. *Cieran* of Clonmacnoise, 545; c lost by aspiration.
- Kilmurrich** (Balfron). G. *coill(e)*, "wood," or *cill*, "church," *Muirich* "of Murphy."
- Kilsyth.** c. 1210 Kelyesyth, 1217 Kelnasydhe, 1239 Kilsyth, 1511 Kilsith. Pron. Kilseith. Prob., after the analogy of Coolsythe, Antrim, fr. G. *ceall*, *cill*, "a church, a graveyard," or *coill(e)*, "a wood," and *saighead* (*gh* mute), an arrow - "graveyard" or "wood of the arrows."
- Kiltrochan** (Balfron). G. *coill' an troghain*, "wood of the raven."
- Kilunan** (Fintry). 1489 Culyownane, *Pont Killennan*. G. *cuil Eunain*, "nook of Eunan or Adamnan." ? the abbot of Iona.
- Kilwinnet** (Campsie). *Pont -winnetts*. Can it be "Wood (G. *coill(e)*) of Wingate" ?
- Kincaid** (Lennoxtown). 1238 Kincaith, 1550 Kyncathe. G. *cinn* (locative of *ceann*) *cadha*, "at the head of the pass."
- Kinkell** (Lennoxtown). Cf. 1298 "Kynkelle," Aberdeen. G. *cinn-na-coille*, "at the head of the wood." The accent forbids the derivation *cinn - ceall*, "head church."
- Kinnaird** (Larbert). 1334 Kynhard. G. *cinn na h'àirde*, "at the head of the height," which refers to its position in older days when the sea came much further in. There is a Kinnahaird at Strathpeffer.
- Kippen.** *Sic* 1238. G. *ceapan*, "little stump or block," or *cupan*, "little cup."
- Kirk o' Muir** (Fintry). 1459 Capella Beate Marie in Garwalde in mora de Dundaff, 1480 Capelle Sancte Maria de Dundafmure, 1508 Ecclesia de Mure, 1576 Kirk o' Muir, 1627 Kirkamuir. "The church on the moor" of Dundaff.

Kitty Frist Well (Kilsyth). *Sic* 1796. Looks like a corruption; Kitty suggests O.G. *ceide*, "a market, a fair, a green, a hillock." But it may be called after a woman who kept an inn close by. Cf. Kittybrewster, Aberdeen.

Knockinshannoch (Drymen par.). G. *enoc an t-sionnaich* or *seannaich*, "hill of the fox."

Ladysmill (Falkirk). c. 1610 Ladiesmill. Prob. called after "Our Lady," the Virgin Mary.

Lanton (Larbert). Prob. "lang toun"; cf. Monkton, pron. the Munton.

Larbert. *Sic* 1251, but 1195 Lethberth, c. 1320 Lethberd. A changed name. Held to be originally Pictish; cf. W. *lled*, "a half," and *perth*, "a brake, a wood." This is not certain, as Perth, of which we have many early spellings, though c. 1128 Pert, is never spelt with a *b* until Boece. How the Lar- arose is very difficult to say; the -bert suggests G. *beart*, "work, exploit, a yoke, a burden, a machine." Cf. Ibert.

Laurieston (Falkirk). *Sic* 1797, but 1393 Langtoun and 1774 Merchistoun. Renamed after *Lawrence* Dundas of Kerse, made a baronet in 1762.

Lavrockhill (Campsie). *Laverock* is Sc. for the "lark," O.E. *læwerce*, *láferce*.

Lawyett (Wallacestone). Presumably "Gate," north Eng. *yett*, "on the law," Sc. for "hill," O.E. *hlæw*, a mound, a hill.

Leddrie Green (Lennoxtown). 1482 Ladrigrène; cf. 1493 Ladrysbeg and Ladrysmor. As site and old spelling indicate, G. *ladaran*, "a little ladle or spoon."

Ledlewan (Strathblane). *Pont* Ladlewen. G. *leathad*, "slope," or *lad*, "watercourse," *leamhan*, "among the elms."

Lednabra (Drymen). G. *lad*, "lade or watercourse," and *braich*, *bracha*, "for malting," or *brà*, "of the quern or hand-mill."

Lennox and Lennoxtown. c. 1210 Levenax, Levenach, 1234 Lenox, 1296 Levenaux; old Gaelic M.S., Lemnaigh. G. *leamhanach*, "place abounding in elms," G. *leamhan*.

Leppie (S. of Falkirk). A farm near L. Ellrig. Prob. G. *lápach*, "a bog, a swamp."

Lernock (Balfron). Prob. G. *leatharnaich*, "placed at the one side or edge," fr. *leath-oir*, "sideways, edgeways." Cf. Learnie, Cromarty, which would be locative of the above.

Lethallan (Polmont). G. *leth ailein*, "share, division (lit. "half") on the green plain."

Letham (Larbert). A name common nearly all over Scotland. It suggests nothing in G. or W., and it can hardly be Pict., as there is a Letham mentioned in Berwickshire in 1250. There is a W. *lleth*, "flattened," and a *llaith*, "damp, moist"; but for the ending -am there seems nothing left but the much-derided suggestion that the name must be a hybrid, ending with the O.E., *hám*, "house, home."

Letheraye or **Lettereigh** (Inversnaid). Pron. in G. as in former spelling. G. *leitir* (fr. *leathad-tìr*) *reidh*, "smooth hill-slope."

Leys (Denny). G. *lios*, "a house, a garden, a fort, a palace."

Limerigg (Slamannan). For *rigg* or *ridge*, see Darnrigg.

Livilands (St. Ninians). 1457 Levilandis, or "level lands." O.Fr. *livel*, "level," spelt in Langland, 1362, *livel*, fr. L. *libella*, "a little balance." Cf. *divel*, for devil. However, a form Levinglandis is also recorded, which may connect the place with some Saxon settler called *Leving*, as in Livingstone, Mid Calder.

Lochgreen (Bonnybridge). If Eng. the name would have been Greenloch, cf. Greenhill close by. So prob. G. *loch grianach*, "sunny loch," fr. *grian*, the sun.

Loch Stank (Slamannan). G. *stang*, "a ditch, a trench."

Lomond Loch and Ben. A remarkable name, which has changed four times. (1) c. 120 *Ptolemy* Lemannonius is now, for the most part, agreed to be L. Lomond, not L. Long; fr. O.G. *leman*, "an elm," seen also in the river Leamain of the Irish *Nennius*, and in Lemnaigh, the O.G. spelling of Lennox, q.v. (2) The *m* aspirated and *leman* became *leamhan*, the present G. for "elm," hence the name 1225 *Chartul. Paisley* "lacus de Leven," a name now confined to the river (here, amnis de Leven) flowing out of L. Lomond.¹ (3) *Leamhan* also got the sound

Called in the English *Nennius*, Flumen Lenin or Leun.



lewan, as in *Ledlewan*; hence very early arose a confusion seen in the 9th century *Nennius*, where *L. Lomond* is *Stagnum Lumonoy* (other MSS., *Lumonui*, *Limmonium* and *Lommon*), while in 919 *Index to Nennius* we read¹ that *L. Lummonou* is in the land of the Picts, and in English is called *Loch Leven*. This root *Lumon* is naturally claimed as Pict., akin to *W. llumon*, "a beacon," as in *Plynlimmon*; cf. *G. laom*, "a blaze of fire, a sudden flame"; and "beacon" is a very appropriate name both for *Ben Lomond* and the *Lomond Hills* (*sic c. 1610*) in *Fife*. Of the latter, old forms seem unknown. They also have a *Loch Leven*, curiously enough, at their foot. This third form is still preserved in *Inverness Gaelic*, which says *Ben Laomuinn*. (4) But the native Gaels soon forgot, perhaps never knew, the meaning of *Lao-muinn*; and the *ao* early became a pure *o*, which *ao*, though a very shifty sound, rarely if ever has done in any other Scottish name. The transition is seen in the local Gaelic pron., which is *Lōwman*, while the native Eng. pron. is always *Lōmon(d)*. Already in the 12th century Irish *Nennius* we have *Loch Lomnan*; c. 1225 *Loch Lomne*, a. 1350 *Lochlomond*, 1498 *L. Lowmond*, 1580 *George Buchanan* *Lominus lacus*, 1791 *Loch Lomin*; both these last are the spellings of Gaelic residents. This fourth form stands nearer to *G. loman*, *-ain*, "a banner or shield." For the common suffixing of the *d*, cf. *Drummond*, fr. *G. droman*, a ridge.

Lossit (Kilsyth). Said to be *G. loisit*, "a kneading trough," applied also to a field of rich, productive land. Cf. 1233 "Losset," near Old Kilpatrick.

Loup of Fintry. A waterfall. *Loup* is Sc. for "leap," O.N. *hlaup*, O.E. *hlȳp*.

Lying Tom (Falkirk). 1817 *Lyonthom*. Modern corruption of a farm name, in the *Valuation Roll* *Lionthorn*, a name also a little puzzling. The second half is prob. *G. tom*, a knoll.

Maddiston (Polmont). 1424 *Mandirstoun*, c. 1610 *Pont Madistoun*. "*Mander's*" or "*Maunder's* village." A good example how the liquids *n* and *r* may wholly disappear. Cf. *Manderston*, *Berwickshire*.

¹ I give this on the authority of Dr. Macbain. I have failed in verifying it.

Mailings (Kilsyth) and **Wester Mailing** (Denny). Sc. for "farm," fr. *mail*, "rent, rent paid for a farm." Cf. Hartsmailing, Bannockburn, and Harviesmailing, Denny.

Manuel. c. 1190 Manuell, 1301 Manewell. No proof that the Scottish M. is a contraction fr. *Immanuel*. But a priory was founded here in 1156, and perh. it was called after the famous monastery of Manuel in the patriarchate of Constantinople. Manuel was a common personal name there at that time. However, the ending in 1301 reminds one of Bothwell, a. 1242 Botheuill, c. 1300 Bothvile, which may be fr. Norm. Fr. *ville*, a town, village, or farm.

Maol an Fithich (N. of Buchanan). G., "bare height of the raven," G. *fitheach*.

Maol Ruadh (Kilsyth). G., "ruddy, reddish, bare height."

Merchiston (Falkirk). Prob. "dwelling of *Murchy*" or "*Murdoch*."

Millarrochy (Buchanan). G. *meall larachain*, "hill, knoll with the little (ruined) farm."

Millskite (Drymen). Perh. G. *meall sgaitheach*, "cutting, piercing (of the wind), stormy knoll."

Milndavie (Strathblane). G. *meall-an-t'samhaidh* (pron. tavie), "hillock with the field-sorrel." Cf. Kippendavie, and Auchindavy, Kirkintilloch.

Milton of Campsie. "Mill-towns" are very common both in Scotland and England.

Minyards (Bothkennar). Prob. G. *mìn àrd*, "smooth height," with Eng. plur. s. Cf. Rawyards, Airdrie, fr. G. *rath àird*, "fort on the height."

St. Mirren's Well (Kilsyth). Fr. St. *Merinus* or *Meadhran* of Bangor, who died at Paisley.

Molanclerich (Balfron). G. *muileann clerich*, "mill of the cleric" or "parson."

Molland (Drymen). G. *mòilean*, "a little lump." For the d, cf. Drummond fr. G. *droman*, and Lomond.

Monyabroch (Kilsyth). 1217 Moniabroed, 1457 Monyabro, 1690 Moniabrough. G. *moine-a'-bhruic*, "moss, moor of the brock or badger," G. *broc*. Cf. Ebroch.

Moss Candle (Slamannan). *Sic* 1795. So called because of the "fir-stocks" or pieces of pinewood dug up in this moss, and which for long have been split up and used as little torches or candles.

Mount Gerald (Carron). A recent name.

Muckcroft (Lennoxton). A changed name. 1200 Much-rat, Muncrath, 1238 Mukraw, c. 1370 Mukkerach, Much-kerach, 1458 Mukrath. All the old forms seem to represent G. *muc-rath*, "cleared spot for pigs"; *rath* usually means a fort or rampart.

Mugdock (Strathblane). *Sic* 1680, but *Annal. Cambr.* ann. 750 Magedauc, *Mocetauc*, 1392 Mukdoc. Prob. G. *mag-a'-dabhoich*, "plain, field of ploughed land."

The Mulloch or Malloch (Carron). G. *mullach*, "a smaller eminence, a little ridge." Cf. Balmalloch, Kilsyth.

Mumrills (Laurieston). 1552 Munmer- and Mummerallis. Prob. G. *moine*, "moss," or *màm*, "round hill," "with the oaks," Ir. *ral*, *rail*, an oak.

Mungalend and -mill (Falkirk). 1508 Monguellis, 1552 Ovir et Nethir Mongwell, c. 1610 Mungill. Prob. G. *moin'-a'-Ghaill*, "bog, moss of the stranger."

Mye (Buchlyvie). *Sic* 1510: 1691 Easter Mye (Drymen). Prob. G. *maigh*, locative of *magh*, "a plain." Generally found as May, as in *Cambus o' May*, or else as *Moy*.

Myothill (Denny). Doubtful. Cf. *Dunmyat*.

Nappiefaulds (Slamannan). Fr. O.E. *cnæp*, "a hill-top," cognate with G. and W. *cnap*, a knot, a button, a little hill. On *fauld*, see Barlinfaulds.

Nether Glinns (Fintry) and **Cumming Glinns** (Balfroun). *Glinns* looks like the locative of G. *gleann*, "a glen," with Eng. plur. *s*.

Newlands (Falkirk and Lennoxton). Falk. N. *Pont Newland*.

St. Ninians. [1147 Egglis, *i.e.*, G. *eaglais*, "church"; 1207 Kirketoune.] 1242 Ecclesia Sancti Niniani de Kirketoune, 1301 Saint Rineyan. Dedicated to St. *Ninian* or *Ringan* of Whithorn, first known Christian missionary in Scotland.

Ochil Hills. *Geographer of Ravenna* Cindocellun, *i.e.*, *cind ochil*, locative of G. *ceann*, "head, height"; c. 850 *Bk. of Lecan* Sliab Nochel, *i.e.*, *sliabh an ochil*, G. *sliabh*, a hill; 1461 Oychellis. In France, near the modern Besançon, and in two places in the W. of Spain, were hill-ranges called by the Romans Ocellum, evidently the same Celtic root, cognate with O.Ir. *achil*, W. *uchel*, "high." Cf. Achilty, Strathpeffer; Auchelchanzie, Crieff; and Glen Ogle.

Offerance (Buchlyvie). c. 1610 Offron. Cf. 1510 "Offeris," near Denny. Looks like G. *oifrionn*, the mass or "offering," with -ce = Eng. plur. *s*. But the *Old Statistical Account* of Callander, 1791, says Offerance near there is in G. *oir roinn*, "side of the point."

O(a)kersdyke (Slamannan). Thought to be fr. O.E. *acer*, "field, acre"; cf. oak, O.E. *ác*. This is doubtful.

Panstead (Grangemouth). Prob. the site of some salt pans. Cf. farmstead.

Parkfoot and Parkhead (Falkirk). Here in *Pont's* map is "The Parck" (of Callendar).

Pendreich (Bridge of Allan). 1288 Petendreich, 1503 Pettyndreich. Pict. G. *pett, pitt' an droich*, "croft, farm of the dwarf." Cf. the surname Pittendrigh, and Bantaskin.

Pest Burn (Grahamston). So called because of the many victims of the Great Plague, 1666, buried beside it.

Pinfold or Pindfold Bridge (Bothkennar). A *pinfold* was a "pend" or "pound" for stray cattle.

Pirleyhill (Polmont). Tautology. G. *puirleag*, "a crest or tuft."

Pirnie Lodge (Slamannan). Prob. as in Kinpurnie, Newtyle, fr. G. *fuaran*, "a spring, a fountain"; with the Brythonic *p*.

Plea Muir (Kilsyth). So called fr. a *plea* or lawsuit between a Duke of Montrose and a laird of Duntreath.

Plean. 1215 Plane, 1745 Plen; usually called "the Plean," 1449 le Plane; and pron. rather like 1215 or 1745 than like the spelling to-day. Doubtful. Possibly Eng. *plain*, L. *planum*; very likely Pictish. Sir Herbert Maxwell thinks that L. *planum*, G. *lann*, and W. *llan*, meaning an enclosure, and specially a church, are all the same root.

Pocknaive (Airth). 1483 Polknafe. G. *poll-a-enamh*, "burn of the bones."

Polchro (N. of Buchanan). G. *poll-a-chro*, "stream with the circle or sheep-pen."

Pollachalloch (N. of Buchanan). G. *poll-a-teallaich*, "stream of the smithy"; *t* in G. often softens into *ch*.

Polmaise (Stirling). 1147 Pollemase, 1164 Polmase, 1483 Polmais - Merschiale and Polmais - Sinclare. G. *poll maiseach*, "beautiful stream."

Polmont. 1319 Polmunth, 1552 -mond, c. 1610 Poumon. Local pron. Pómon, showing that the accent must have changed. G. *poll monaidh*, "stream or pool on the moor or moorland hill."

Polybaglot (Drymen parish). G. *poll-a-bagailt*, "stream, water with the clusters of nuts."

Port of Menteith. 1489 Terrae de Port . . . in comitatu de Menteith. Port is Fr. *porte*, L. *porta*, a gate, "entrance to Menteith," which is in Perthshire — *a*. 1185 Meneted, 1234 Mynynteth, Mynteth, 1724 Monteath. G. *moine Taich*, "moss or moor on the R. Teith." The 1234 forms seem to show Pict. or Brythonic influence; cf. W. *mynyndat*, Corn. *menit*, *meneth*, a moor.

Powfoulis (S. of the Pow Burn, Airth). *Sic* 1483. *Pow* is the Sc. softening of G. *poll*, "a stream, a muddy burn, a pool." Foulis or Fowlis is also found as a place name in Easter Ross, where the G. is Fòlais = *fo-ghlais*, "sub-stream, burn." So our name is a tautology. Cf. Pow-drake, Polmont.

Praunston (Balfron). 1817 Provenstown, *Valuation Roll* Provenstone. Modern corruption of "Provan's town" or "farm."

The Quarrell (Carron). 1510 le Quarrell. In Ordnance Survey Map, "Old Quarry Hole"! *Quarrel* is old Sc. and mid. Eng. for "a quarry," O.Fr. *quarriere*, mod. Fr. *carrière*, med. L. *quarraria*, *quadraria*, fr. *quadrare*, to square (stones).

Quarter House (Dunipace). 1519 ly Quartir, or "the quarter."

West Quarter (Falkirk). *Sic* c. 1610. Also near Buchanan church.

Queenzieburn (Kilsyth). c. 1610 Goyny, 1694 Guiny, 1817 Quenzieburn. Prob. G. *caoin*, *caoine*, "gentle," which the burn, for the most part, is.

Quinloch (Strathblane). Prob. also fr. G. *caoin*, as above.

Randyford (Falkirk, and near the source of the R. Endrick). Fal. R. 1508 Randifurd. Down to it, in Falkirk, led the Randygate, now Kerse Lane. Here *randy* cannot mean "course or rude"; that is a derived sense not found till 1698. It seems to be a weakened form of *randoun*, in Barbour, c. 1375, and even earlier (the same word as *random*), meaning "a swift course or flight," fr. Fr. *randon*, the swiftness or force of a violent stream. And *ford* must have its obsolete sense of "brook, burn," cf. p. 19. Thus Randyford is "swift, violent burn" (there is no "ford"), and Randygate is "road with the swift or steep descent." Also see Rumford.

The Raploch (Stirling). *Sic* 1329, but 1361 Raplach, and still so pron. G. *rapalach*, "noisy, bustling, brawling," fr. *rapal*, noise.

Rashiedrum (Denny). Prob. a hybrid; fr. Sc. *rashy*, "rushy," fr. M.E. *rishe*, *rusche*, O.E. *risce*, *riese*, a rush, and G. *druim*, "a hill-ridge." If the name had been all G. it would have been *Druim rasach*, "hill-ridge covered with shrubs."

Rashiehill (Slamannan and Fintry). Slam. R. c. 1610 Rasshi-hill. See above.

Redding (Polmont). *Sic* c. 1610; also Reddingmuirhead. Doubtful. Possibly, like Reading, Berks, 871 Readingas, called after some family. But cf. "Redinche," i.e., "red-looking peninsula" or "pastureland," name in 1195 of the peninsula on the Forth, E. of Polmaise; also 1464 "Reddingis," 1530 "Redinghill," Ayrshire, 1609 "Round-redding," Dumbarton, and Redden, Sprouston.

Redyett (Kippen). "Red gate," cf. Lawyett, also Yetholm.

Rouchmute (Dunipace). c. 1610 Rochmute. Perh. G. *ruadh mut*, "red-looking, short, stumpy thing."

Roughcastle (Bonnybridge). *Sic* 1726, but 1697 Castle Ruff; the previous history of the name is unknown. But here was a Roman fort.

Rouskenach (N. of Buchanan). G. *rutha sgeannach*, "staring, glaring point."

Rowardennan (L. Lomond). G. *rutha* (pron. rua) *àird Eunan*, "high point, promontory of St. Eunan," synco-pated form of Adamnan, Abbot of Iona. Row- here as in Row, Dumbarton, must be pron. ru. Not far away is Rowchoish, or *rutha na coise*, "promontory at the foot" of the hill. In G., s very often becomes sh, as here.

Ruichneuch (Rowardennan). Perh. G. *rutha na h-eighe*, "promontory or point of the shriek, the cry," G. *eugh*.

Rulzie or **Rollies** (Dunipace). Perh. G. *roilleach*, "place abounding in darnel," G. *roille*.

Rumford (Polmont). Randyford (q.v.) farm is certainly once called Romyfurde (see *Regist. Great Seal* for 1508 and 1552), a curious and unexplained alteration. It may be conjectured that the latter name must have been transferred to what we now call Rumford, a place which seems to have no history. It is not in Thomson's map, 1817-1820. The burn here looks small; but "Romyfurde" should mean "roomy ford" or "wide stream" (see p. 19). Cf. Romford, Essex, and Romicofan, Runcofan, "wide, roomy cove," O.E. forms of Runcorn.

Sallochy (L. Lomond). c. 1350 Sallachy. G. *salach*, "dirty," with the Eng. diminutive.

Satterhill (Slamannan). 1817 Saturhill. Evidently N. *sactor*, a summer farm, a hill dairy farm. Cf. Dalsetter, Lerwick.

Sauchie (Dunipace). [Sauchie, Alloa, 1208 Salechoc.] 1451 Litill Salehy, c. 1610 Sachy. *Salechoc* is early Eng. for "willow-haugh." *Saugh* is still the Sc. for "willow"; and *haugh* is a meadow or pasture by a river.

Scullion- or **Skilliangow** (Campsie). Perh. G. *sqailean-a'-ghobha*, "arbour (lit. shade) of the gow or smith."

Seggieholm (Killearn). Seggie- is prob. connected with the vb. *sag*, "to sink in the middle"; and *holme* is O.E. *holm*, Icel. *holm-r*, a small island, also a meadow near a river, such as might be surrounded or covered in time of flood.

Shian (Balfroon). *Pont Shyen*. Prob. G. *sithean*, pron. shéean, "a fairies' knoll."

Shielbrae (W. of Bannockburn) and **Shieldhill** (Falkirk). c. 1610 Sheelhill. "Sheltering brae" or "hill," fr. Icel. *skjól*, O.N. *skali*, a shelter, Icel. *skjold-r*, a shield. *Brae* is O.N. *brá*, O.E. *bræw*, eyelid or eyebrow, brow of a hill.

Shippy Trouty (Dunipace). Name of a plantation, now hopelessly corrupted; and unfortunately there is no trace of the name in the Callendar charters. One may guess, *G. sioba treudaiche*, "long, narrow field of the cowherd."

Sink (Plean). 1817 Sike. *Sc. sike, syke* (O.E. *síc*, a water-course, a runnel) is a small rill, a marshy hollow with a stream or streams, a ditch; and *sink* in *Sc.* and North Eng. has much the same meanings.

Skaithmuir (Carronshore). A hybrid = Blairskaith. Cf. Carmuir.

Skeoch (Bannockburn). Pron. Skeógh. 1317 Skewok, 1329 Skeoch, c. 1610 Skyoch. *G. sgitheach*, "the blackthorn." Cf. R. Skiack, Kiltearn, and Skeoch Hill, Mauchline. At the Stirling Skeoch there used to be a chapel dedicated to the Virgin; so some would derive the name from an unidentifiable saint called Skeoch, Scawachie, or Skay. Cf. St. Skeoch's or St. Skay's burying-ground, at Craig, Forfarshire.

Skinflats (Grangemouth). No trace here of a tannery; so perh. fr. *G. sceithin*, "a bush." *Flats*, i.e., meadows, is a common suffix hereabouts, Carronflats, Millflats, Smoothflats, &c. To derive fr. Ger. *schön Platz*, "beautiful place," seems absurd.

Slackristock (Denny). c. 1610 Slechryistok. Prob. *G. sloc riasgach*, "marshy hollow," *sloc*, a ditch, a hollow, a dell.

Slafarquhar (N. of Kilsyth). c. 1610 Slefarcharr. *G. sliabh Fhearchair*, "hill or moor of Farquhar."

Slamannan. *Sic* 1457, but *Chron. Iona* ann. 711 Campus Manonn, 1250 Slethmanin, 18th century pron. Slaymanan. *G. sliabh Manaim*, "moor, hill-face of Manan," the Manannan Mac Lir of Irish legend. Cf. Clackmannan and Cremannan.

Snabhead (Bannockburn and Muiravon). Dan. *sneb*, *Sc. neb*, "a beak." Cf. Snab Hill, Kells.

Snaid R. (L. Lomond). *G.* and *Ir. snathad*, "a needle."

Sron Aonaich (L. Lomond). *G.*, "point (nose) on the moorland height."

Standalane (farm near Falkirk).

Standburn (Avonbridge) and **Standrigg** (Polmont Station). Doubtful.

Stenhouse and Stenhousemuir (Larbert). c. 1200 Stan hous. Local pron. Stanismare. *Stan hus* is O.E. for "stone house." Cf. Arthur's Oon.

Sterriqua (Campsie). Difficult through lack of old forms. It looks like G. *sturrach cath*, "rugged, uneven battle-field or battle."

Stirling. a. 1124 Strivelin, 1225 Stirleyn, c. 1250 Estruelin, 1295 Estrevelyn, 1455 Striviling, c. 1470 Sterling, 1682 Striveline. W. *ystre Felyn*,¹ "dwelling of Velyn," aspirated form of *Melyn*, prob. the same name as is found in Dunfermline, whose earliest spelling (*Turgot*, c. 1090) is Dumfermelyn, i.e., G. *dùn-fiar-Melain*, "crooked, slanting hill of Melyn." But who was he? Melin or Meling in later Sc. always becomes Melvin and then Melville. W. *felyn* (cf. Bankyfelin, Carmarthen) means "yellow," and it occurs in its aspirated form in Melyn llyn, Lan-rwst; but *Melin* in our Sc. names must be a person, as it is hardly permissible to postulate a W. adjective in a Fifeshire name. The modern G. name is Sruithlà, but, like Paslig, mod. G. for Paisley, it seems to be a name of yesterday, given by men who had no proper connection with the Brythonic founders of these towns, and carrying as little authority or weight as the meaningless mod. G. name of Callander (see Preface p. viii). Sruithlà simply cannot have been the original form. We possess scores of 12th century spellings of the name, while Gaelic was still spoken in Stirling; many from Cambuskenneth Abbey, under the very shadow of the Rock. These spellings never contain a final *a* or *ach*, but always an *-in* or *-yn*; and the *n* cannot be the scribe's flourish, as in Logyn for Logie, because the *n* is persistent, and always remained in the pron. as *n* or *ng*, which a scribe's "trick" never does. Moreover, Sruithlà contains no explanation of the ancient and long-persistent *v*. Sruithlà is thought to have the same base as G. *sruth*, a stream, *sruthan*, a streamlet, and prob. was at first Sruith-lach, a locative fr. which the *ch* would disappear. No trace of Sruithlà appears in any ancient document.² We do find a. 1100 in *St. Berchan* a Sruithlinn on Tay, which looks very like a Gaelic imitation of our Brythonic name.

Stirlingshire. 1164 *Papal Bull* Striuelingschire.

¹ In Welsh a single *f* sounds *v*, *ff* sounds *f*.

² But who was "Duncan a Sruthlee" in the *Dean of Lismore's Book*, p. 161?

Strathblane. c. 1200 Strachblachan, -blahane, 1238 Strachblachyne, c. 1240 Stratblathane, c. 1300 Strablane. G. *srath blàthan*, "glen with the little flowers," G. *blàdhach*, flowery.

Stronachlachar (L. Katrine). G. *sron a' chlachair*, "cape" (lit. nose) "of the mason." A shepherd's house not far away is called Strone Macnair.

Stuckintaggart (Buchanan). G. *stuc an t'sagairt*, "projecting, little hill of the priest." Cf. Stuc-a-bhuic, fr. *buc*, a deer, near L. Chon.

Summerford (Falkirk). No "ford" here, so *ford* will have its usual Stirlingshire meaning of "burn, brook," see p. 19. There is such an one.

Sunnyside (Camelon).

Tackmadoun Burn (Kilsyth). Perh. just "take me down."

Támfour Hill (Falkirk). 1617 Thomfour, 1632 Tomefurhill. A tautology. G. *tom fuar*, "cold knoll or hillock." The spellings Tam- and Thom- are due to ignorant association with the Eng. name Thomas and Sc. Tam.

Tamhully (Killearn). Prob. G. *tom a' chullaich*, "hillock of the wild boar."

Tappock Hill (Larbert). Prob. dimin. of G. *taip*, "a rock, a lump."

Tayavalla (Camelon). Modern G. name of a villa, G. *tigh-a'-bhalla*, "house on the (Roman) Wall."

Taynunich (Buchanan). Pron. Taynéenich. G. *tigh-an-aonaich*, "house on the heath or waste."

Thicklet (Grangemouth) and **Thislet** (Falkirk). Doubtful. As -let is but a recent suffix in Eng., the -let is prob. dialectal Eng. *leat* or *let*, "an open watercourse or mill-lade," fr. O.E. *gelæt*, a conduit.

Throsk (S. Alloa). Sic c. 1610. A curious and abnormal name. Might be Icel. *thrösk-r*, O.E. *thrisc*, "a thrush"; cf. Throston, Hartlepool, and Thirsk. In sound it looks like G. *t(h)rosg*, "a cod."

- Tiggetsheugh** or **Ticketsheugh** (Dunipace). Pron. Tiggetshúgh. Because formerly a roadside inn, said to be corruption of G. *tigh na deoch* (proper gen. *dibhe*), "house of the drink," which is very doubtful. The first part may be G. *teicheachd*, "a retreating, a flight," and the second is almost certainly the Sc. and Ir. *sheugh*, *shugh*, *sheuch* (not in good G.), "a furrow, ditch, drain, or small ravine," as in Drumsheugh, Edinburgh.
- Tippeteraig** (Bonnybridge). Name of a farm perched on the top of a crag. Cf. Tappitknowe, Denny.
- Titlandhill** (Stenhousemuir). Prob. like Titwood, Glasgow, 1513 Tytwoyd, fr. an O.W. or Celtic *twt*, "rising ground." Cf. "Tutebraid," 1510, near Denny.
- Todsbughts** (Slamannan). "The 'buechts' of a man Tod." Sc. *buechts* or *bowght* is a sheep-pen, especially for confining ewes at milking-time. Cf. Buechts, Kilsyth.
- Tomrawer** (Kilsyth). c. 1610 Tomrawyr. Perh. G. *tomraith àird*, "hillock with the high fort." Cf. Rawyards, Airdrie, and Tomaglas, Drymen.
- Tomtain** (Kilsyth). G. *tom tain*, "knoll of the cattle" or "flocks."
- Toravon** (Polmont). G. *torr Aibhn(e)*, "fort, tower, or hill on the river Avon," or Abhuinn.
- Torbrex** (Stirling). Sic 1562. G. *torr breac*, "speckled, mottled tower" or "hill." The *x* comes fr. adding the Eng. plur. *s* to the *c*. Cf. Cromlix.
- Torrance of Campsie**. Prob. G. *torran*, "a little mound, a knoll," with Eng. plur. *s*, corrupted or "improved" into *ce*. Cf. Water of Torrance, Drumblade.
- Torwood** (Larbert). Hybrid; originally pure G., c. 1140 Keltor, i.e., *coill' an torra*, "wood of the tower, fort, or hill."
- Touch** or **Tough Hills** (Stirling). 1329 *Tulch*. Tautology. Same as Tough, Alford (pron. *toogh*), c. 1550 "Tulluc or Tough," 1665 Towch; G. *tulach*, "a hill, a mound." There are two farms, Toughgorum, 1368 Tulchgorme, a. 1500 Tulkgorme, fr. G. *gorm*, "green"; and Toughmollar, 1368 Tulchmaler, fr. G. *màlair*, "a merchant, a renter."

Trampinghaugh (Bridge of Allan). Perh. so called fr. a field used for washing and "tramping" blankets in Scots fashion. On *haugh*, see Abbotshaugh.

Trienbeg (Drymen). *Sic* 1691. G. *trian beag*, "little third part or portion."

Tullibody (S. Alloa). The old charters *seem* to imply that there was such a place S. as well as N. of the Forth, near Alloa,—1163 Tulibodevin, 1164 Tulybethwyne, 1195 Tulybotheuyn, -euyne, c. 1200 Tulliboyene. Prob. G. *tulach both aibhn(e)*, "hillock with the house by the river," *abhuinn*. The hard *d* in -body is found in the earliest form of the northern place also—c. 1147 Dunbodeuin, c. 1150 Dumbodenum, fr. G. *dùn*, "a hill."

Vellore (Polmont). House built and named by a military officer who had been present at the siege of *Vellore*, Madras, in 1780; in map of 1817. But Blairroer, Drymen, is fr. G. *odhar*, "grey."

Wallacerigg and Wallacestone (Polmont). *Rigg* is Sc. for "ridge," cf. Darnrig. The stone commemorating Sir William Wallace's battle of Falkirk, 1298, was erected in 1810 in place of an older slab.

Wallside (Camelon). On the Roman Wall. Cf. Tayavalla, beside it.

Wallstale (Bannockburn). "Place with the well," Sc. *wall*, O.E. *well*, *wella*, and O.E. *stæl*, *steall*, a place, then a "stall" in a stable. There is a well-known well here.

Waltryburn (Campsie). 1817 Waltreeburn. Doubtful.

Waterslap (Airth). A *slap* is Sc. for "a gap, a gap in a fence, or between two hills," cf. Clayslaps, Stirling, Kirkslap, Denny, and Cauldstane Slap or Slack, Lyne.

Weedings Hall (Polmont). 1602 Wedingis, c. 1610 *Weegings*. Like so many of the seemingly Eng. names around Polmont doubtful through lack of evidence. It may be the same as Weedon, Rugby, and may be O.E. *weód-dun*, "weod-covered hill." *Weeg* is Sc. for "the kittiwake or seagull"; but the spelling in *Pont* is prob. a mistake.

Wham Glen (Kilsyth). Unaspirated form of G. *uamh*, "a cave," as in *Uamvar* and *Wemyss*.

Wyndford (Castlecary). A passing place for boats on the Canal, and said to be where they *wind* or turn round. This may be so, if the name is modern. But *ford* must here have its now obsolete meaning of "burn or brook," as there is no "ford" in the modern sense.

The above List contains over 500 names, of which, approximately, 302 are Gaelic, 141 English, 9 of other languages, 30 hybrids, and 21 doubtful, viz., Awells, Babbithill, Bonny, Doghillock, Forth, Garden, Gartcows, Gogar, Gunnershaw, Hookney, Indians, Kilwinnet, Kitty Frist Well, Letham, Lying Tom, Manuel, Myothill, Plean, Shippy Trouty, Throsk, and Waltryburn.

ADDENDA.

Airthrie. . . . ; or else fr. *aithrin*, "a sharp point, a conflict." There is an Aithry, N. of Fintry.

Banton. . . . But, as the accent is on the -ton, it may be, like Banknock, a contraction of G. *bail' an duin*, "village on the hill."

Campsie. . . . a. 1300 Camsy, but already c. 1210 Campsy.

Carbrook. . . . Cf. Kersebrock, two miles to the east.

Castle Rankine. It is said to be called after a *Jacobus de Rankeing*, in the days of King Robert the Bruce, the first of that name in Scotland, and possibly a Fleming.

Croftalpie is Croftalpine in the Ord. Survey Map.

Gribboch. Delete what is there given, and read, Gribloch (Kippen). Prob. fr. G. *grib*, "dirt, filth."

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